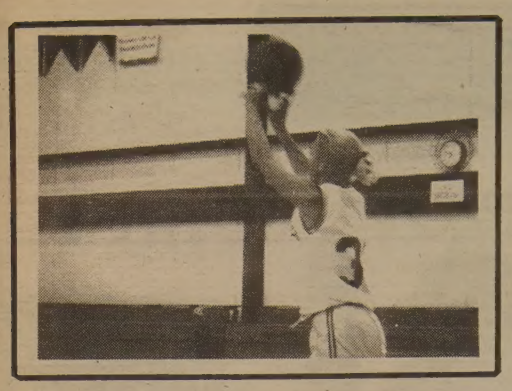
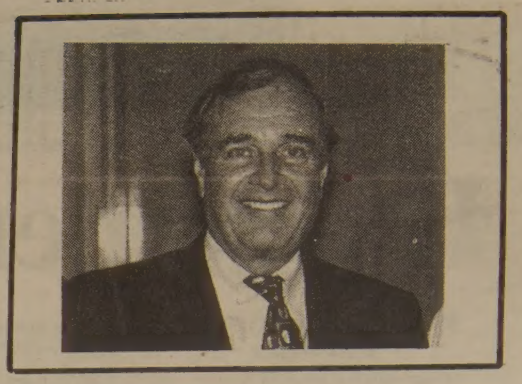


Lady Knights defeat D'Youville, Page 21

Finance Minister Paul Martin, See Politics Page 11



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NIAGARA NEWS

VOLUME 27, NO. 5 —FREE— NOV. 22, 1996

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Bright and Blooming

Niagara College first-year horticulture students are ahead of the rest when it comes to growing poinsettias. Tiffany Bleyswyk, 20, of Thorold, Rachael Dunn, 19, of Owen Sound, Chris Fairen, 20, of Pickering and Brent Creen, 19, of Stoney Creek.

Photo by Gord Wittenberg

NIAGARA NEWS

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SAC's food drive begins

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) has taken the phrase "food for thought" to a realistic level.

SAC and the college's Counselling Department have planned a campaign called the Food For Friends Food Drive, which began on Nov. 18 and continues until Dec. 8.

The program's goal is to collect food products to help needy students at college. This year the food

(continued on page 3)

Careers in focus

By GRETTA ROSSI
Staff Writer

Niagara College is opening its doors.

The college's Welland campus is holding its Career Focus Event on Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

The event will include presentations from a variety of programs, door prizes including a portable stereo/CD player and college sweatshirts.

Visitors to the college should enter through the First Avenue entrance where a trade show of program representatives will direct them to the various presentations.

Included in the days' events is a presentation by special guest Richard Sales, instructor of Criminal Justice and Social Sciences at Florence Darlington Technical College in South Carolina.

Sales will speak on the Oklahoma bombing aftermath where he spent nine days working as a FBI chaplain with rescue workers and the families of the victims.

His presentation will take place in the Hamilton Room.

Individual presentations will be held by the community studies divi-

(continued on page 3)

Fun with pain

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

Ladies and gentlemen, get ready to ride the pain-train.

On Nov.18, a full crowd at After Hours watched anxiously as Tim Cridland (The Torture King) performed painful acts with swords, torches and broken glass.

"I've been doing this as an amateur since I was 10, but professionally for six years."

Cridland, 32, of California, studies the ancient art of chinese yoga and said "it helps me focus."

"I never drink or take anything before a show because it impairs your mental thought of concentration.

"I'm able to put myself in a self-hypnotic state so I don't feel too much pain. I do feel pain but I transfer it into a form of energy."

The Torture King awed the audience with swallowing swords. He started with a small sword and then choked down a 24 inch blade.

"It's a very dangerous thing to do," said Cridland, adding "one little slip and you could cut your stomach."

Glass was also broken and stepped on by the Torture King. Once the glass was imbedded into his feet, he laid on his back and had an audience member jump on his stomach.

"I've been injured, but never hospitalized. I had a stick broken over my back in one of my

(continued on page 3)

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CAMPUS NEWS

Fragomeni resigns

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

When push came to shove, she took the road to employment.

Realizing increased hours at her job at General Motors in St. Catharines would reduce her ability to serve students, Kim Fragomeni, Student Administrative Council (SAC) vice-president external, resigned her position on student council.

"It came down to what are you going to choose, GM or SAC? And she chose GM, which in essence I couldn't hold against her," says Don Woodruff, 21, SAC executive vice-president.

"SAC is fun. We do a lot for the students. We get a lot of stuff done, (but) if you're not pulling your weight, at least have the decency to resign, which she did," says Woodruff.

"I've got a good job," says Fragomeni, 26, a post-diploma Correctional Worker program student. "It's solely because I got called back to work," she says of her resignation.

"She's a mature student with children and a husband, so obviously her life is more important than school or any extracurricular activities after school," says Woodruff.

He says there was a lot of tension between SAC members because certain responsibilities weren't being fulfilled, "so it satisfied a lot of council frustrations."

Fragomeni's post won't be left vacant long.

Fragomeni's post won't be left vacant long, however, as recently-elected student representative Rhonda-Lynn Des Roches, 35, a second-year Recreational Leadership program student, has already been acclaimed to the position.

"We had two people that wanted the position," says Woodruff, adding a byelection wasn't called due to dismal student interest in the affairs of their own student government. "It would be kind of awkward to try to get that many people to participate.

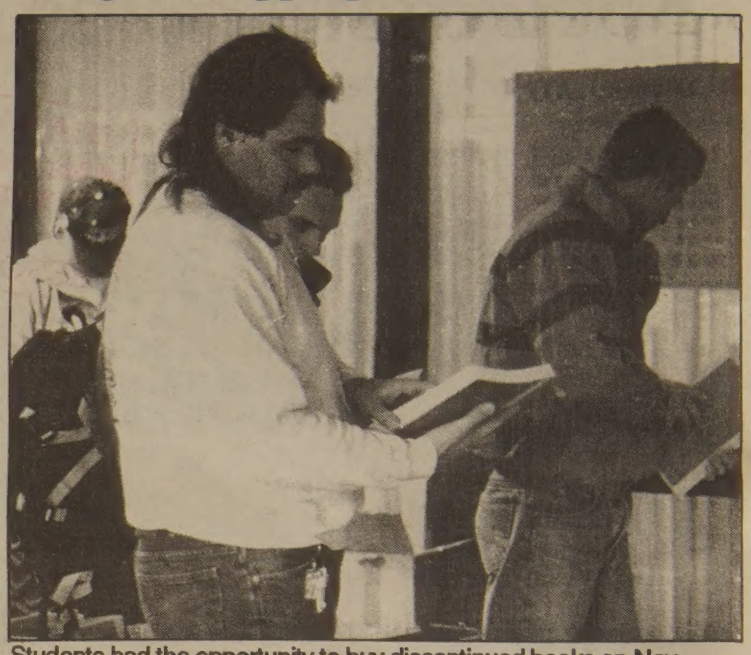
"So we've upped a student representative with qualifications to that position, and she has shown us the support that they're willing to do the job," Woodruff says.

Des Roches says she's already busy with her new responsibilities.

"I've been working on picking up where she (Fragomeni) left off," she says. "I'm going to be in contact with her, to get some information from her as to where things are at.

"I was just there to take the position and that was fine," says Des Roches.

Bargain shopping



Students had the opportunity to buy discontinued books on Nov. 12 and 13. Marilyn Hynes, manager of the Niagara College bookstore, said they had been accumulating for a while. "We were doing some housekeeping, and we thought we would give the students a chance to shop." The books were not on the fall course list and were not sold for a higher price in September.
Photo by Katherine Nadeau

Student starts support group

By KATHERINE NADEAU
Staff Writer

With a little courage and a lot of hope, a 20-year-old Niagara College student has started a support group for the gay, lesbian and bisexual community within the college.

Beth, not her real name, discovered the importance of peer support when she left home to attend school.

"Two years ago I lived in Toronto and because it (being gay) was more widely accepted I joined a group," she says. "I was going into a group of strangers and telling them and they were accepting me."

This experience gave her the courage to confide in her closest friends.

A second member, who asked his name not be published, says privacy is still a major issue.

"Living in an area where resources (for gays) are limited, and attitudes are conservative at best, can lead to a strong feeling of isolation," he adds.

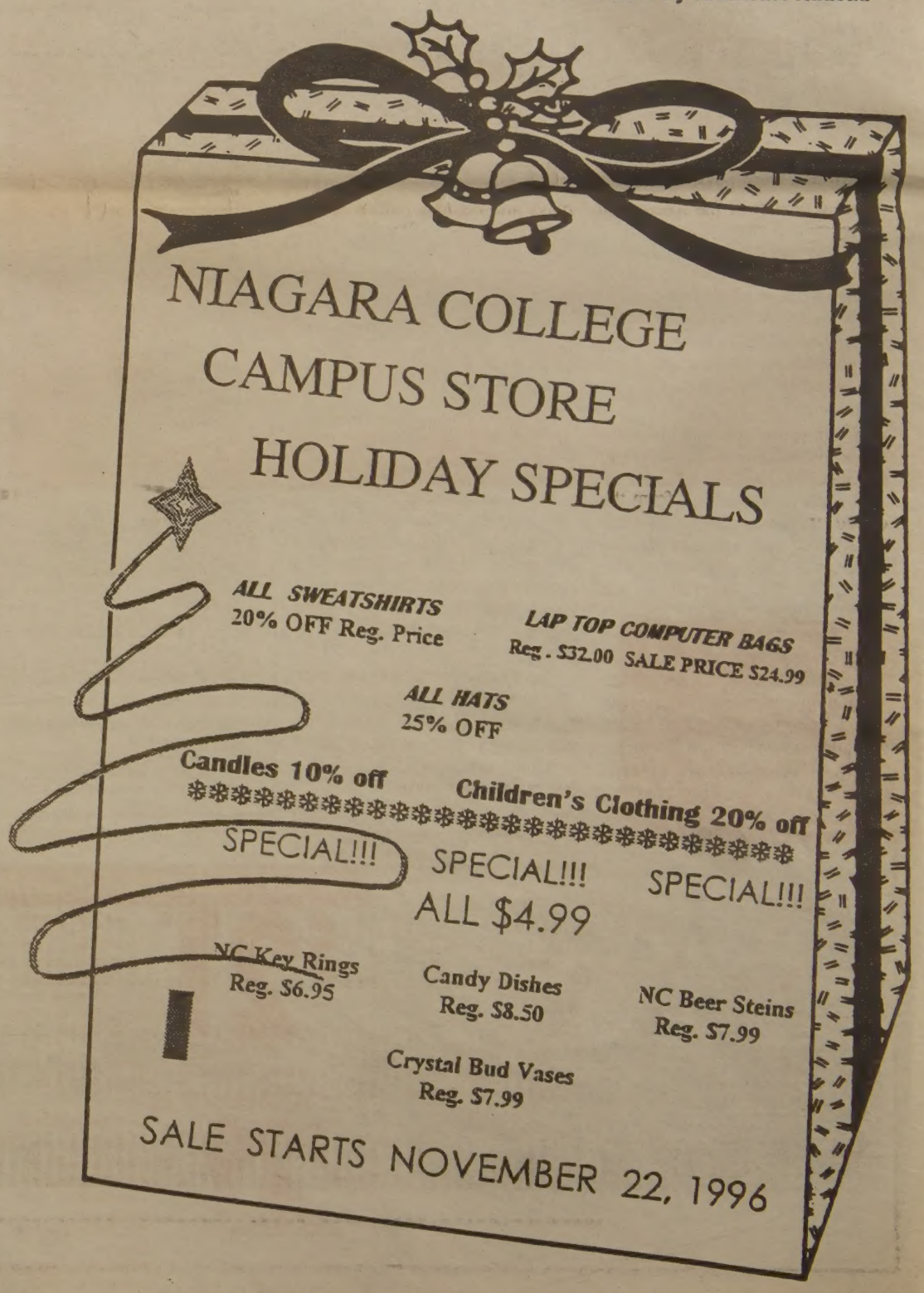
Confidentiality and safety were important considerations when Beth decided to form a club at the college.

There are still problems of prejudice and homophobia no matter where you live, says Beth.

"Basically, I wanted a support group because I think that is what is mostly needed, but also it will be a chance to get out and socialize.

"It's great to go out with your straight friends, but sometimes you need to be with people you have more in common with."

The club also meets once a week with a similar club at Brock University. For information about time and location of meetings, contact Cindy at the SAC office, Ext. 7659, or Ext. 6461 and leave a message.



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THE STORY CONTINUES

Food drive helps students

'It's a really unique thing we offer.'

-Jason Chase

(continued from page 1)

drive organizers hope to gather enough food for more than 100 students.

"The goal of helping 100 students is not too high. It's a small number when you actually consider the number of college students, which is up to 5,000," said SAC President Jason Chase.

The Food For Friends Food Drive is looking for non-perishable foods such as peanut butter, soup, rice, Kraft dinner or any other items that won't spoil or expire.

Ten boxes will be located around the school where donations can be placed as well as in the SAC office in After Hours and the Counselling Department at the Welland campus.

FOOD FOR FRIENDS
FOOD DRIVE
DROP OFF BOX

The food drive program originally started in 1992 and has grown into an annual event.

"It's something necessary to help the welfare of the college students," said Chase. "It's really a unique thing we offer."

If there is any surplus food left over from the food drive, organizers will donate it to needy people outside the college community.

"Everything that's not given out by Christmas will be donated to a local food drive," said Chase.

A SAC media release states that college students are often overlooked as being needy, and this food drive will help the students make it through until their next Ontario Student Assistance Program allotment.

"It doesn't have to be a big donation. You can go into your cupboards and dig out that can of creamed corn you'll never eat. Someone else will use it," said Chase.

The campaign is also looking for volunteers to help out with the food drive. For more information on the Food For Friends Food Drive, contact Chase at 735-2211 Extension 7658 or the Counselling Department at Extension 7778.

The King lives

(continued from page 1)

shows, and I broke with it. I learned from that mistake," said Cridland.

"I've been reading about this art since I was a child," he said, adding "a lot of material from the Middle East, and Japan. I found it fascinating and I knew then that I wanted to do this.

'I've been injured, but never hospitalized.'
-Tim Cridland

"I took it upon myself to do this because I wanted to renew the art, and most circus shows don't have this anymore."

Cridland has spent a lot of time studying and preparing his shows.

"I learned how to do this through medical journals, by observing others do it, and talking to those who do it.

"It took me a while before I could master it, but I think I've got it."

Cridland's final performance of the night involved three skewers and three piercings.

The crowd moaned and groaned as the Torture King stuck the skewers through his bicep, mouth and lower jaw.

"There's a man from Switzerland who, 50 years ago, would put a sword through his back and have it pass right through his chest. That's what I'm working on currently."

Although Cridland was enduring the pain, the sounds of the audience indicated they felt it as well.

Niagara College opens its doors on Sunday

(continued from page 1)

sion by faculty of the Recreation Leadership program and Social Service program.

Also on hand to answer any questions will be representatives from the Early Childhood Education, Educational Resources, Special Needs, Human Relations and Law and Security Administration programs.

Business programs will be holding a multimedia presentation in the Secord Room.

The staff and students from the dental programs and representatives from the Ambulance and Emergency Care programs will be at the dental clinic. Visitors are encouraged to try out the computer software and participate in microscope demonstrations.

Information and Computer Technology programs will be featuring a multimedia travel guide and visitors can surf the Internet.

The Architecture and Construction Engineering Technology programs will have displays and demonstrations featuring the Computer Assisted Drafting.

There will be a number of door prizes

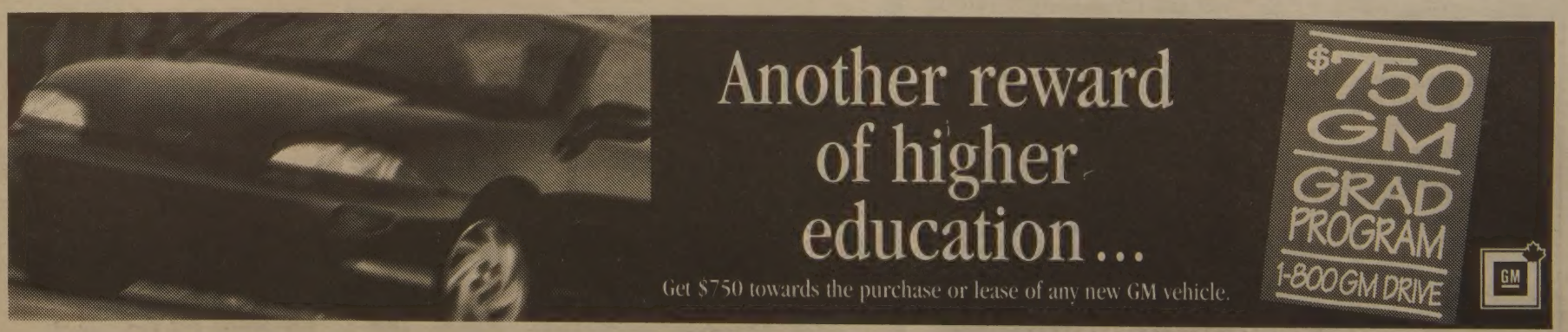
Information about admissions requirements and careers for full-time, part time, Continuing Education, and co-operative education along with information on counselling, health services, peer tutoring and special needs will be provided.

The library, campus store, child care centre and athletics facilities will be open. Housing information can be picked up at the Student Administrative Council at the After Hours Student Centre.

Making a federal case

Niagara College Journalism-Print program students Brad Moscato (left) and Jhim Burwell (right) met federal Finance Minister Paul Martin at a Liberal Party fund-raiser at Club Roma in St. Catharines on Nov. 13.

Photo by Andy Roy, a Liberal official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'TIS THE SEASON

Sweet treats

By TANYA BRYAN
Staff Writer

Two bake sales were recently held to pay for clowning around.

Proceeds from the sales on Nov. 12 will pay for entertainment by TJ the Clown and refreshments for Niagara College's annual Children's Christmas Party at the Welland campus.

The sales were held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Tecumseh foyer and Hennepin Hall.

"The staff bakes and donates all the goodies," said Wendy Nicholls, accounts receivable clerk, who is part of the committee organizing the party.

Nicholls said last year's sale was successful and they were hoping to raise about $200 this year.

The party, featuring Santa Claus, will be Saturday, Dec. 7. The cost, which includes a gift, is $12.50 a child.

Jan Potton at left, psychology professor, Nancy Avolio, Employment Services employee, Wendy Nicholls, student accounts employee. **Photo by Katherine Nadeau**

Santa parade crowd pleaser

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again, and in its 91st year, the Santa Claus Parade in Toronto is still drawing a crowd.

The North Pole has treated dear ole Santa well, for not a hair on his snow-white beard was tattered.

He made his annual, merry ride down Yonge Street in Toronto on Nov. 17, and who better to lead the traditional parade than the RCMP. Propped up on their well-groomed, buzz-maned horses, the riders were closely followed by helpful clowns with shovels and buckets.

Hundreds of people lined the 200-year-old Yonge Street to see the man in red. Children bundled in snowsuits, tuques, and mittens with strings, sipped their hot chocolate and anxiously waited to see the bright red nose that guides Santa's sleigh.

Uniformed marching bands thumping out Christmas carols coaxed the crowd into the spirit.

Upside-down clowns, rosey-cheeked lady bugs and little gingerbread men pranced through the street, following the beat of the drums.

The parade was big, colorful and full of life. Floats with snowflakes, floats with bells, and my personal favorite, floats with penguins passed, each one bringing you-know-who closer.

Jolly ole St.Nick shouts "Merry Christmas" to his fans at Toronto's Santa Claus Parade. **Photo by Jennifer Elliott**

The anticipation filled everyone with excitement, even the parents. Adults were glowing with smiles as they re-lived their childhood and the fantasy of the North Pole.

The children all pointed and waved and shouted out as Rudolph and the eight tiny reindeer escorted the man himself, Santa Claus.

All decked out in his famous red suit and perched high in his sleigh, he pointed and waved and shouted in return, "Merry Christmas!"

Christmas Fantasy Show set for this weekend

By JENNIFER GIBSON
Staff Writer

The whole family can join a celebration of Christmas spirit this weekend.

The second annual Christmas Fantasy and Gift Show will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23 and Sunday, Nov. 24. The show will last from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. daily.

The Rose City Seniors Activity Centre will host the event which is geared to young and old alike. Entertainment, beginning on Saturday at 10 a.m. and on Sunday at noon, will feature amateur and professional talents such as T.J. the Clown, the Bill Stevens Dixieland Band and the Shirley Yeszam School of Dance. Santa's Workshop will be open both days from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. to allow children to deliver their Christmas lists to Santa personally.

The show will feature 35 artisans from the Niagara area. Gift ideas will be available for under $30. The focus is quality at a low cost.

A cash donation or a children's toy at the door would be appreciated to support Community Christmas Toys programs.

Anyone wishing for more information about this community project, organized by the Rose City Seniors Activity Centre, the Welland Community Services Department-Recreation and Leisure, and Community Christmas Toys, don't hesitate to call 732-1414 or 732-7300.

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Niagara loan approved

Residence in the works

By HEATHER BURTON
Staff Writer

It's ground breaking news.

The Niagara College Board of Governors discussed the developments of the proposed Welland campus residence at its Nov. 14 meeting.

A loan has been approved for the construction of the residence. The committee is still in final negotiations with the lowest bidder, and is waiting for final approval from the province, said Hans Van der Slagt, the college's vice-president, administration services.

Meanwhile, the third annual Counsellor Information Day was a success, says college President Dan Patterson.

The event was co-ordinated by the college's Communication and Planning Department for guidance and career counsellors throughout the Niagara Region.

"The evaluation was just outstanding," said Patterson.

The purpose of the day was to provide area high school counsellors with the developments at the college.

On Oct. 21, in the Kerrio Room at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls, the first showcase of chefs evening was held.

Chef Hank Pellerin from the Skyline Brock in Niagara Falls and Suzzanne Janke from Chateau des Charmes were showcased.

Because of the success of the evening, more than 100 reservations were made for a similar showcase held Nov. 18.

College officials have received updated drawings for the new Glendale site incorporating the revised programming requirements such as high-tech skills training activities. The installation of services at the Glendale site continues and is expected to be completed by mid-December.

To Thailand and back

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College President Dan Patterson returned "exhausted" from a "rewarding trip" to Thailand on Nov. 12.

Patterson said he was "very well received by officials" at the University of Burapha who "spoke glowingly of (Niagara College) staff."

The president was accompanied by George Repar who was involved in the co-ordination of the original proposal for the Thailand project.

Niagara College and Brock University in St. Catharines are working together on the project aimed at helping the University of Burapha develop a centre for environmental and industrial training in the highly industrialized area on the eastern seaboard of Thailand.

They "desparately need an environmental control system," said Patterson two days after his return.

General Motors of Canada is planning to build a plant near Burapha and they have asked for Niagara College's advice on environmental controls and training.

Niagara will "share with them our resources and experiences," said Patterson.

The Niagara College/Brock University partnership won the tender called for by the Canadian International Development Agency. Their bid was for a four-year project to set up an exchange program with the University of Burapha and share waste management expertise.

. . . a 'rewarding trip'

Patterson's trip included receptions and meetings with not only university officials, but several mayors and the governor of Chonburri province.

However, Patterson said the "thrust of the visit was to review projects that are underway."

Other groups Patterson and Repar met with while in Thailand were the Canadian Education Centre of Bangkok, which recruits Thai students to come to Canada to study, the Tourism Association of Thailand where they talked about a possible exchange to train instructors in Western-style customer service and the Business Opportunity Investment Board that promotes business immigration and economic development in Thailand.

Niagara College has "an international reputation for hospitality and tourism training," said Patterson.

He spoke with the deputy governor of Chonburri about the Thai official's visit to the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls last May. An exchange of staff between Niagara and Thailand was done about two years ago.

"What impressed me most was their graciousness and appreciation for information," said Patterson about his hosts. "It was a chance to share experiences and have a knowledge transfer that was appreciated on both sides.

"We've learned a lot from them and our staff come back (from Thailand) enthusiastic and more motivated for their own jobs," said Patterson about the interactive Thailand project.

JANUARY START '97

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Nature's tea time

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

There were strange odors in the Simcoe Building last week, but they were good odors.

The Native Social Service Worker students held a class presentation on Nov. 15 in the student lounge of the Aboriginal Education Access Office.

The students were required to research a herbal tea and a type of native food, to prepare and sample each item, and then to discuss the medicinal aspects of the tea and food in front of their classmates and teacher Michael Doxtater.

This particular lesson was a combination of Community Health and Traditional Indian Healing classes taken within their main course.

The students were not only marked for their presentations but also for the organization of the symposium. The students were responsible for all arrangements.

"They're doing this for a learning experience," said Doxtater, who is also a community organizer from the Six Nations Reservation near Brantford.

In the first half of the symposium, the class took turns explaining many types of herbal and remedy tea, such as sassafras, cranberry, jasmine, cedar, peppermimt, ginger root, dandelion and lavender. The students explained the healing qualities of the tea.

Before the second part of the presentation, the students were joined by Niagara College President Dan Patterson who aided in the sampling of the teas.

The students then presented the many types of native foods in a buffet-style display that included corn soup, Indian tacos, fish and sweet potatoes.

The Native Social Service Worker program is identical to the regular Social Service program except that half of the course is native specific. During this semester, the students take courses such as Traditional Indian Health Practices, Introduction to Community Health, Mohawk language as well as their base courses.

Wisdom to live by

You can discover more about a person in a hour of play than in a year of conversation. - Plato

Man is the only animal that blushes. Or needs to. - Mark Twain

Pleasure is very seldom found where it is sought. Our brightest blazes are commonly kindled by unexpected sparks. - Samuel Johnson

The actuality of thought is life. - Aristotle

Laughter is the shortest distance between two people. - Victor Borge

Worry doesn't help tomorrow's troubles, but it does ruin today's happiness. - Anonymous

All men by nature desire knowledge. - Aristotle

A HELPING HAND

Human Relations students help United Way

By HEATHER HUNTER
Staff Writer

Thanks to Niagara College students in the Human Relations program, the United Way campaign at the college is on its way to reaching its goal.

The United Way's objective is to raise more than $17,500.

Linda Saari, chairperson for the United Way committee at the college said, "We expect to go over the top. The United Way's new total is $15,107."

The college campaign "went over the top thanks to the students" in the Human Relations program taught by Bev Brown, said Saari.

She visited the Welland campus to receive a cheque for the United Way from the students in the Human Relations program on Nov. 7.

"It's very exciting to have students involved and championing the cause," said Saari.

For a full semester, Human Relations program students were busy working on fund-raisers as a class project, worth 15 per cent of their class mark.

The class was divided into groups, each responsible for organizing a fund-raising campaign, with money going to the college United Way campaign.

Jamie Blank, Pamela Horkey, Carmen Cataldo, Luciano Berardocco, and Nicole Gray held a car wash at the Beer Store in Welland, raising $60, while Craig Jacobi, Alison Pridham, and Mike Tilden raised $35 selling raffle tickets for gift certificates and Student Administrative Council paraphernalia.

Chanda Dean, Rick Weasner, Sidney Hawkin and Rob Favaro raised $101 selling tickets to local businesses.

About $250 was raised by Scott Seto, Stacey Juhkle, Angie Allen, Andy Pagnotta and Scott Meller at a dinner held for the United Way.

Joyette Heron, Lori-Ann Martin, Rebecca McIntee, Jen Edwards, Amy Layton, and Jen Puddy raised $125 in a walk-a-thon.

Linda Saari (at left) receives a donation from Human Relations program students Karen Iwachow, Richard Harvey and Lindsey Westbrooke.

Photo by Melissa Labbe

After holding a bakesale and 50/50 draw in the Mackenzie building, Donna Gagnon, Lindsey Westbrooke, Karen Iwachow, Krista Wilkie, Denis Bland and Richard Harvey raised $160.

Selling pizza in front of the gym during intramural sports raised $200 for the group.

The students raised $982 — making a new United Way total of $16,089.

The idea for the project was a collaboration between Brown and Bill Munroe, a computer teacher in the Human Relations program.

The United Way of South Niagara has recently instituted a new award for the best student campaign according to the amount of money raised. All students who participated in the fund-raising have a chance of winning.

With the United Way campaign nearing its end, Saari said she's hoping to have all donations soon.

Before leaving, Saari thanked the students. "Your creativity is to be commended."

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March of Dimes praises volunteers

By GORD WITTENBERG
Staff Writer

The Ontario March of Dimes regional office for the southern region is celebrating 11 years of volunteering excellence.

CHERYL MARSHALL

"In our minds volunteers are gems," says Cheryl Marshall, 32, of Thorold, information services secretary of public relations. "We couldn't do what we do without them."

She said they have more than 100 volunteers at the regional office. They work on committees such as public relations, fundraisers, bingos, door-to-door canvassing, casinos, craft sales and one lady makes quilts to raise funds.

"Volunteers bring enthusiasm, expertise and energy. Everybody has something to offer whether they believe it or not," said Marshall.

She said she would recommend or encourage students to become volunteers, not only for the benefit of the March of Dimes as an organization, but to gain experience in their area of interest.

Most of the volunteers are students, or were when they started, said Marshall, adding volunteer service is valuable on a resume as practical work experience. It also allows people to give something back to the community.

"If you are giving up your own time, it's important to do it for a cause you feel strongly about," said Katherine Nadeau, a second-year Journalism-Print program student at Niagara College, who does writing and public relations on a volunteer basis for the Ontario March of Dimes.

"The March of Dimes provides a vital service to the disabled adults in our community," said Nadeau.

Does Niagara College live up to expectations?

MARK SPIRONELLO

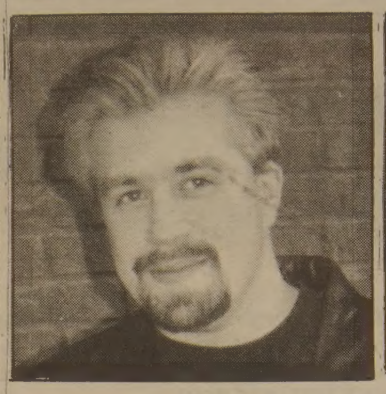
A Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program student says he knows he made the right program choice. Mark Spironello, 24, of Niagara Falls, says, "It's what I did (being a disc jockey) for four or five years before I started."

He says with his diploma he'll be able to charge more money. After graduating, Spironello says he wants "to be on the radio for a major market."

TRISH TURNEY

"I like my teachers, I don't like the program," says Trish Turney, 20, an Office Administration-Executive (Co-op) program student.

"Many of the people in the program aren't doing well and it's not because they don't know what they're doing. It's hard to get motivated when you are relearning basic concepts and all the classes are similar," says the Niagara Falls resident.



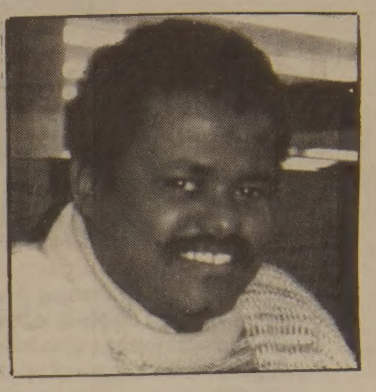
CHRIS GOATER

Chris Goater, a 21-year-old Law and Security Administration program student from Grimsby, says he used to go to Mohawk College in Hamilton. The colleges are "like night and day," he says, adding at Mohawk he had to "fight, kick and scream to get things done." Three of his school applications and two parking permits were lost there, he says, but adds Mohawk wasn't all bad. "It got me here today."

BROOKE MACKINNON

Brooke MacKinnon, 18, an Early Childhood Education program student, says she has gained a better understanding of what her field involves.

The Fonthill resident had an exciting music and drama class when a rat came out of a rolled up blanket. "Everyone stood up on their chairs and screamed," she says.



HAIDER HAMMAD

A Visual and Creative Arts-Design program student finds his program "creative plus useful."

"The things I'm studying now relate to life," says Haider Hammad, 33, of St. Catharines.

The college is "weak" in the social aspect, says Hammad. "There are no parties or social clubs for students to get to know each other."

For this word on campus, first-year students were asked if college is what they thought it would be. After talking to numerous students, five students agreed to go on record and pose for the camera.

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Best Buddies enjoy meeting

By DEBRALEE VAN GHENT
Staff Writer

It was a meeting everyone said they enjoyed.

The Best Buddies program at Niagara College in Welland held its first representational meeting on Nov. 15.

It was held at the Welland home of Roxane Reid, 22, a student co-ordinator of the program from the Educational Resource and Special Needs program.

There are students from the college's ERSN program, the Early Childhood Education program and the Recreation Leadership program involved in the Best Buddies program.

Krista Rapson, 19, of Grimsby, an ERSN program student, was one of the participants.

She says being a Best Buddy means getting the chance "to meet new people and have new experiences."

Asked if she would stay with her buddy once the program is done, she replied: "I would like to stay in touch with my buddy, if possible, when the year is over."

Rapson says when the first group outing begins she would like "to go to the movies, see Niagara Falls or do lunch."

"I like being a buddy because I like to meet new people and besides I'm always up for a challange," says Dawn Gutowski, 18, of Thorold.

"I look very forward to continuing my friendship after the school year is done," she says, adding she would like "to go out for coffee and go to Niagara Falls for a walk" with her buddy.

Theresa Duff, 18, of St. Catharines, another ERSN program student, says she likes being a Best Buddy "because it gives me a chance to be involved with the developmentally disabled community.

"I like meeting new people and taking on new challanges."

She says she hopes to stay in touch with her buddy once the program ends at the college.

"I plan on going to the movies," she says, when the outing happens. The two participants from the ECE program were Marsha Hartsell and Julie Spence.

Hartsell, 21 of Dunnville, says she is undecided about being a buddy after the program ends, but "if my buddy and I get along well and we really enjoy each other's company, then I feel I would continue my relationship."

Hartsell says she would like to go skating with her buddy.

"I like meeting my buddy, but I'm undecided" at the present time whether to continue, says Spence, 20, of Welland.

"I don't know my buddy well enough, although if I do enjoy being with my buddy I'll probably continue," she adds.

Kyle Rayner, 20, of Hamilton, a Recreation Leadership program student, says "I like being a buddy because I enjoy working with unique individuals and I enjoy new challenges."

"I'm undecided about being a buddy after the program ends, but I would hope that things would go well enough so that we could continue our friendship during the summer," he says, adding he hopes to go to the movies with his buddy.

Rayner says "it was great to hang out with other student buddies."

It's "good to find out about other people's experiences in meeting their matches," says Rapson.

Gutowski says it's "great to know that others care too!"

Marcia Rowat, 25, leisure and volunteer co-ordinator of the Welland District Association of Community Living, was at the meeting.

"Since this is the first year of the Best Buddy at Niagara College, it was great to have the input of volunteer participants in order to develop and strengthen the program further," she says.

"It's nice to work in this group of energetic students who relate well with the each other, and feel confortable and competent enough to share their insights and share their experiences with myself and other fellow volunteers," said Rowat.

EDITORIALS

NIAGARA NEWS

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the **Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 735-7669.**

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Coverup concerns

The evidence against bringing video lottery terminals (VLTs) into the province is mounting.

As concerns grow about the impact they will have in communities across the province, the Progressive Conservative government is arrantly ignoring police concerns about the involvement of organized crime.

Recently we learned of a secret report prepared by the Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario warning that the legalization of gambling is open to a rise in organized crime. At first, Solicitor General Bob Runciman refused to release the year-old report to a committee of MPPs studying the legalization of VLTs. One week later, it was learned that Runciman, Consumer Relations Minister David Tsubouchi and Premier Mike Harris had not even read the report.

It seems the government is playing a game of see-no-evil, hear-no-evil. It is also obvious that Mr. Runciman is so careless and negligent he would ignore the advice of police across Canada. The more we find out about when the government knew the information, the more alarming this coverup becomes.

Being aware of the recklessness that Mr. Runciman and his colleagues displayed makes it clear this government is so desperate to pay for its tax cut it doesn't care what the consequences are.

Cutting women's services

When the fundamentalist Islamic sect Taleban militia seized control of Kabul, Afghanistan, women were barred from working, ordered to veil themselves in public, girls' schools were closed, and women were forced to give up their rights as citizens equal to men.

This cannot be written off as an isolated, cultural experience that is unfortunate, but distant from and unrelated to Canadian women. The oppression of women is moving closer to home under the thin guise of fiscal restraint.

The cry of "women and children first" has gone up, and the sacrifices have begun.

The downsizing of the offices of the provincial Ministry of Social Services has created an incredible logjam of child support payments stuck somewhere in bureaucratic cyberspace.

Cuts to day-care programs, women's shelters and other services used primarily by women, will have longterm repercussions that must be acknowledged. If women are forced to abandon jobs or their education because of a lack of adequate day care, this can only increase their need for public assistance.

The use of fear and intimidation to control and oppress cannot be justified, whether it's done in the name of religion in Afghanistan or in the name of government cuts in Ontario.

Letters to the Editor

More courtesy needed

Dear Editor:

Thursdays are normally known as study nights for most Niagara College students. Homework and watching television's "Friends" are about as exciting as they get — Right? Wrong!

This past Thursday (Nov. 7) contained more excitement for a few students than they had expected. Plans were set after viewing the very colorful posters in After Hours at the school — "Much Music Video Dance Party, be there at 8 p.m."

The group went to After Hours. One student said they had a tremendously booming time. Booming with the exception of one student's observation.

Passing through the crowd, arms loaded with beverages, the polite "excuse me" and "pardon me" were uttered. Prepared to see people move aside kindly. This was not the case. Instead "excuse me" and "pardon me" were greeted with rather disturbing expressions.

This offered only one solution — push through the crowd and resort to guerilla-bar defense tactics. After all, when in Rome do as the Romans do.

The bar excitement was over and it was time to make a rather lengthy trip home.

Travelling at a reasonable speed the conclusion was made there was difficulty in the tire department. Changing a flat tire at midnight in the pouring rain was not exactly the perfect ending to an evening on the town.

Fumbling around with this tire was not fun. The decision was made to flag down one of the many passing motorists for assistance. Once again this plea for courtesy was denied.

The group resorted to changing the tire in the dark without any assistance. They were on the road in a matter of an hour.

Where is this little adventure leading us? To this conclusion: when you hear a quiet excuse me or see a motorist in turmoil, just remember that one day this could be you.

Express a little bit of common courtesy, people at Niagara College, *and you are sure to be pleased with* the results.

Tineke Bruinsma
First-year Journalism-Print program

What about student complaints

Dear Editor:

Why is it that there have not been any lengthy investigative articles about major student complaints about faculty or services?

I know people who most definitely have some (the Legal Assistant program, for example).

Trisha Turney
Office Administration Executive program

Your opinions count

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submission is the following:

1. All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication.

2. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study.

3. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening phone number for verification use only.

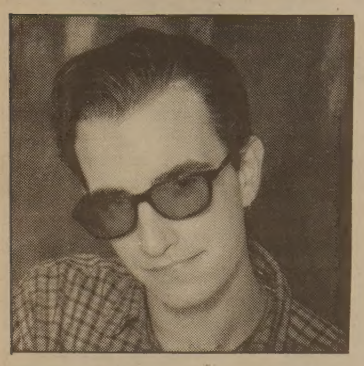
All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

See our Christmas edition. We hit the streets Dec. 6. It's our final paper this term.

FROM THE HIP

A display of multicultural intolerance

Canadian embarrassment on the international stage



By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

Just think of it this way, we're all in bed together.

Almost 30 million of us, all snuggled up, side by side, rustling and tugging at the same woolly, coast-to-coast, national blanket.

The label on our blanket reads: 25 per cent wool (miscellaneous ingredients—or the varying peoples of Canada) 25 per cent blood, sweat and tears, and 50 per cent tolerance.

Oddly though, despite this supposed high tolerance level, dated and disgraceful events still abound under this grand Canadian afghan of ours, instances which in essence, tears away at our frequently harassed and heterogeneous national fabric. Instead of exhibiting tolerance, pig-headed Canadians clench onto their little piece of the blanket, without foresight, *without* tolerance and are rewriting our national label.

Celebrated French crooner Charles Aznavour paid a visit to Montreal Nov. 8. Aznavour has recorded in both French and English and has been designated the ambassador of French song by his international fans. He was booed and heckled by a 6,000 strong audience when he decided to sing a few of his much-acclaimed melodies in English.

Aznavour received the same ridiculous demonstration two days later at a show held in Ottawa, a show which our own prime minister Jean Chretien attended. At this show, our prime minister went backstage and met with Aznavour to "apologize on behalf of the Canadian people." What an utter national embarrassment.

Apologizing of behalf of what should be by now one of the most content and resilient people of the world, because they're so caught up in their deaf-eared, linguistic tug-of-war that they can't even enjoy the music of an internationally renowned entertainer is infantile.

Proud, boisterous, headstrong French Canadians are sick of federal foot-dragging and increasingly fiery in their protest of anything English, because they feel they're being oppressed. They're creating these expansive cultural fissures themselves by fanning any simmering coals of resentment that might already exist.

Narrow, archaic, dinosaurian English Canadians, arrogantly downplay what they view as a glorified special interest group, they further provoke unrest in Quebec decade after decade by refusing to

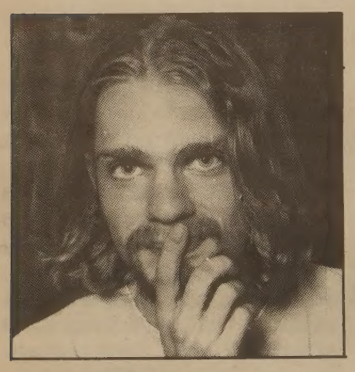
admit even slightly that these eloquently speaking French-Canadian kinsmen, our fellow bed-buddies under the national blanket, are a vital part of who we are.

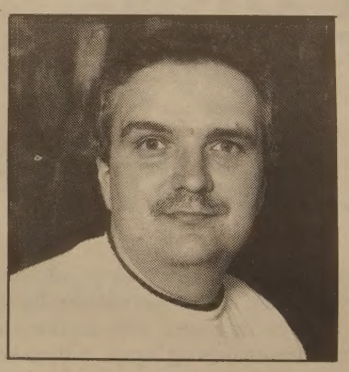
What would be greater: the shame felt by the prime minister for his blindly belligerent people or the sorrow felt by Aznavour for this self-righteous, short-sighted, unbending bunch of blanket-yanking Canadian bumpkins?

Canadian pride should rest on the factual shoulders that we are a haggard, yet hopefully shining model upon the dawn of the new world order.

The multicultural patchwork quilt of future generations requires tremendous tolerance. A night of bilingual entertainment is something special, something unique and represents a special opportunity to demonstrate that Canada can kick back and enjoy rich cultural diversity. Turning it into a national embarrassment is typical of the current cast of closed-minded Canadians who are childishly working to dice up our distinctive national blanket. Don't let those who harbor this petty mistrust of change within themselves pull the wool over your eyes.

Gambling for the future





By BRIAN HALLETT
and COLIN HUNEAULT
Staff Writers

Who calls the shots: the people or the political parties?

With the disappointing performance of our representatives, people have been jumping from one political party to the other — gambling for a better future.

The lack of consistent support leaves one to wonder if the political parties should be left with all decision-making.

PRO-PARTY

The party representatives are well versed in political issues and are able to best serve the public.

In theory, the public aligns itself with a political platform that best meets the public's needs.

The elected party will then administer its policies during its term.

Our policies, our representatives and our democracy.

The current system is adequate and has served us well.

The public has enough control over the decision-making and the government does not need to go out and spend plenty of money to allow the people to vote on every issue.

People do not have the time or energy to vote on trivial matters. The bottom line is, we can not afford to vote on every issue.

We voted for them. We have to live with their decisions.

PRO-PEOPLE

When did the creator become subordinate to its creation?

The political party is a system made by the people.

We, the people, should choose the outcome of this country and not the political system.

Currently, Canadians must vote for a party that best matches their views.

The integrity of the representatives is secondary to the real issue at hand, the party platform.

This current abrasion allows for some undesirables to sit in the Parliament. We don't need to worry too much about the local representatives as much as the political platform.

The platform is the heart of the political machine. A poor platform is a doomed party.

The party that tickles the most ears wins.

Their policies, their representatives, and their democracy.

Politicians should be the delegates of the people

Canadian politicians should be considered delegates of the people.

They should be the voice of their riding. They should not be motivated by any parties but rather by the people.

The people should be allowed to vote on all serious issues.

It would be feasible to hold referendums twice a year.

Politicians would like us to believe that the citizens are not educated enough nor inclined to participate in a decision-making role.

Think again.

If this century has revealed anything, it is the unwavering desire by the people for self-governing.

Let the people rule.

An island retreat

By DEBRALEE
VAN GHENT
Staff Writer

The Bahamas is the place to be when in need of a break from the stress around you.

I've been to the Bahamas three years in a row. It's always relaxing to get away to be in the

Enjoy the nightlife

sunshine and on a tropical island.

During the time there you can lay on the beach and get some rays, and in the evenings you can enjoy the night life by going to the casinos.

In the casino, you can hear the sounds of slot machines and people cheering at the roulette tables. The party really starts around 10 p.m. That's when the bands perform at the nearest sports bar. They play the true Bahamian music raggae style.

Bahamian people are very friendly and want to make your stay time well spent. They make it worthwhile by showing you the island and telling you the history as well as its future.

On the island, there are numerous resorts, many of them changing or expanding each year.

One of the resorts undergoing major work is Atlantis.

Many things on the island have changed since three years ago. The resort was under construction then, but now there are many new things to see.

Atlantis has an underground aquarium where you can see the tropical fish and live sharks right above you.

Also, a Holiday Inn will soon be gone. Atlantis has taken over the facility and they are tearing it down and building a new and better resort. That means the casino at Atlantis will be moving into the new resort and the old casino will be a huge conference room for many travellers.

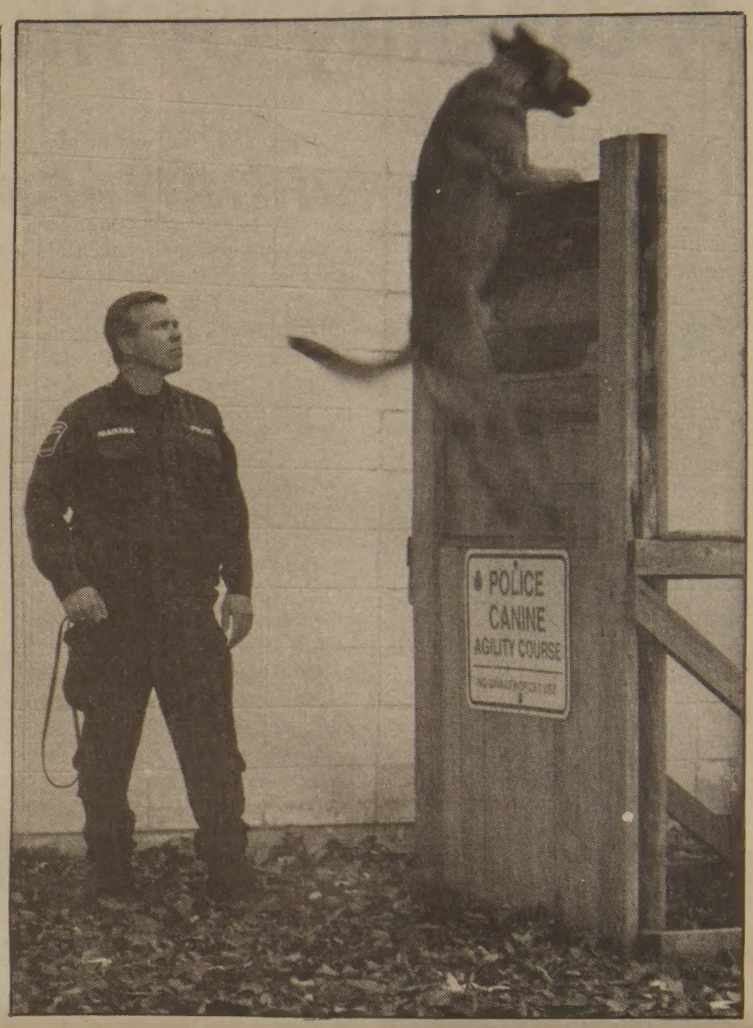
Many Bahamians say "Paradise Island soon will be called The Atlantis Island."

I recommend visiting Paradise Island, Bahamas, because it is a relaxing place to be for any college student able to get away for the pure enjoyment of being with family or friends.

The writer recently returned from a one-week stay in the Bahamas.

JUSTICE

Able to leap tall buildings in a single bound



Police Service Dog (PSD) Herc demonstrated his jumping abilities when his handler, Constable Jeff Hopkins, ran him through the agility training course in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Photo by Janice Poole

Thunderstruck

PSD Thunder with Journalism-Print program student Janice Poole.

Photo by Constable Yancy Eddie

CRIME STOPPERS OF NIAGARA

Prevention tips

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

Don't make yourself a victim of crime.

Crime Stoppers is reminding the public to be aware that criminals prey on victims at night in an attempt to reduce the risk of being caught.

As the daylight hours become shorter, Crime Stoppers offers some ways to protect yourself and your possessions.

Stay in well-lit areas and walk with a friend whenever possible.

Avoid doorways, bushes and alleyways since they are hiding places for would-be criminals.

At home, be sure doors and windows are locked and exterior lights are on at night. Use automatic timers to turn on lights and a radio to give the appearance that someone is home.

Don't allow strangers into your home and request proper identification from service people.

Crime Stoppers regularly receives tips identifying suspects responsible for a variety of street crimes, break-ins, robberies and other offences committed.

Crime Stoppers has become an effective weapon in the fight against crime but it needs the help of everyone to keep our streets safe.

Missing teenager

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

Crime Stoppers Niagara is assisting another Ontario Crime Stoppers program in their province-wide search for a missing teenager.

Melanie Ethier was last last seen leaving her friend's house on Pine Street East in New Liskeard (Northern Ontario) at 2 a.m. on Sept.29. She was going to her residence on Wellington Street about seven blocks away. There is no evidence to suggest that Ethier left the area voluntarily.

Ethier is 15, female, 5'5", and 120lbs. She was last seen wearing a green and white Nike jacket, blue jeans, white shirt and black boots.

If you have information regarding this missing person, or any other crime, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-263-8477, or 1-800-222-TIPS to be eligible for a cash award up to $1,000.

In all cases, you will not have to reveal your identity.

On your mark, get set, go

Former Niagara Regional Police Service vehicles sit on the selling block at the David Chevrolet Geo Oldsmobile dealership in Welland.

Photo by Janice Poole

POLITICS

Reform promoting new platform in Ontario

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

Preston Manning and the Reform Party are trying to prove their credibility before the election, expected next spring or fall.

The party is trying to promote their "fresh-start" pre-election platform by campaigning in southern Ontario. The campaign kicked off on Oct. 17.

Intended to be a new beginning for the party, the platform is based on a balanced budget, income tax cuts, a structured national unity proposal, a crackdown on crime and a pledge of political integrity.

"We will work to convince all Canadians the righteousness of the positions we have taken," said Don Johnstone, a director of the Welland/St. Catharines/Thorold Reform riding.

In light of a fiscal conservative government that promised tax cuts and was rejected in the United States, the Reform Party is trying to show it is more than a Western-based regional movement.

Johnstone said he is baffled the Reform isn't seen as a nationwide party.

"It's hard to see how this stigma is placed on us when, in fact, our representation indicates that we are a national party."

The Reform policies are similar to those of Ontario's Mike Harris and Alberta's Ralph Klein, which are widely accepted by the business community.

Manning and his MPs are expected to journey through Canada's most populated province on numerous occasions this year.

Toronto's corporate circle will be a spotlight in the upcoming election, especially between the Reform and Conservative parties.

"The two conservative parties are not co-opting each others ideas, as the Liberal and NDP government are. They are battling for the portion of the electorate who think philisophically for the small c-conservative," said Johnstone.

"However, our overall objective is to form government."

Canadians can expect to hear Reform's new motto — "it's taxes, taxes, taxes, that kill jobs, jobs, jobs," frequently in the months ahead.

Tax cuts are emerging in every party's platform as politicians try to find a way to put money back into the pockets of potential voters.

Progressive Conservative leader Jean Charest recently welcomed the idea of tax cuts and federal Finance Minister Paul Martin has indicated his debt-and-deficit reduction will do more for Canadian taxpayers and the economy.

Johnstone said what the Liberal Party is doing is essential and necessary. However, he expressed concern with the measures they have taken.

"The Liberals are cutting programs they shouldn't be cutting. They are increasing revenues and decreasing services."

Johnstone also indicated differences between the parties.

"The Reform Party is a $96-billion government. The Liberal Party is a $106-billion government. This obviously means more money into the pockets of all Canadians."

Reform is also promising to eliminate the infamous GST, but only after completely dismantling the entire tax system into a simple flat tax.

The party is pledging to balance the budget in two or three years and then propose a tax cut to Canadians.

Once the deficit is paid down, the party would like to enact a tax cut, Johnstone said.

"One of the major differences between the Conservative Party in Ontario and the Reform Party of Canada is that the Ontario Tories implemented a tax cut before there was a balanced budget.

"The Reform Party is opposed to such policies. We wouldn't think it would be good accounting."

The Conservative government has raised taxes 39 times between 1984 and 1993 and delivered the GST, while the Liberals have failed to keep their campaign promise on scrapping the hated tax.

It is the lessening of taxes that create jobs, said Bill McKay, treasurer of the Reform Party's Niagara riding.

"We would like to revitalize some money into the health care and educational systems' envelopes," McKay said.

Reform has been the ruling voice of the political right since their 1993 showing in the federal election.

However, extremist members have given the party a reputation of being racist and intolerant.

"Personalities cannot influence philosophy," said Johnstone.

For the Reform, the test will be whether or not the party can break out of its Western base. The big battle will be in Ontario, where the party has only one riding and where Tory tradition is unwavering.

Johnstone said the party must "work hard" to achieve 66 ridings in Ontario, the Reform objective, and a number Johnstone feels is attainable.

"This is a make it or break it year for the Reform Party."

Finance Minister Paul Martin mingles with party faithfuls at a Liberal gala-dinner at Club Roma in St. Catharines on Nov. 13.
Photo by Brad Moscato

Tories continuing tax cuts

Many skeptical about promised taxcut

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

The second phase of the promised tax cut by the Ontario government will materialize on Jan. 1, 1997.

The Conservatives promised a 30 per cent reduction in provincial income tax rates in the "Common Sense Revolution," — the Tories' election promise of June 1995.

"The government should not be embarking on a tax cut at this time. They should wait until there is a balanced budget," said St. Catharines Liberal MPP Jim Bradley.

Bradley said the tax cut has been proceeding slower than most had anticipated. He indicated, however, the Conservatives will forge ahead with the reduction no matter what the consequences.

"This government is driven by ideology rather that practicality."

The first instalment of the tax cut was announced last July 1, which was a 7.5 per cent decrease. Once the second segment is implemented, the tax cut will be at a 15 per cent reduction.

"The income tax cut is a very important campaign promise," said Niagara South Tory MPP Tim Hudak.

The tax relief will be a longterm investment and will rekindle the entrepreneurial spirit in Ontario, he said.

"Income tax reduction has a direct affect on job creation."

If the second phase of the cuts is implemented in January, Ontario's personal income tax rate will fall to 49 per cent. Before July 1, income tax rates were at 58 per cent of the basic federal tax.

The final instalment is expected to inject another 15 per cent reduction, bringing the rate down to 40.5 per cent of the federal tax. The final cut is to be announced Jan. 1, 1998.

Hudak said by cutting taxes and by making the economy stronger, a sound public sector will ensue.

According to opposition estimates, the cuts could cost the provincial treasury about $6 billion annually once fully implemented.

"The tax cut will benefit the most wealthy in our society," said Bradley.

Bradley said layoffs, coupled with a tax reduction, could weaken the economy, particularly if people don't spend the additional income in the province.

"There is no guarantee the money will be spent in Ontario's economy."

Considerable skepticism among the business community has also been fostered.

"People in the province are still pretty suspicious of the economy," said Niagara College Business-Retail Management program coordinator Theresa Champion.

Champion said the cuts won't have a huge impact on the retail sector.

She expressed concern about the impending holiday season, suggesting consumers will not be spending more money than they did last year.

However, Premier Mike Harris has indicated he's determined to prove a provincial tax cut will create jobs and stimulate economic growth.

Health care in danger

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

Liberal Leader Lyn McLeod is calling on Premier Mike Harris to end the bulldozing of health care.

McLeod wants Harris to put the brakes on the Big Blue Tory bulldozer by restoring the $1.3 billion his government has stripped from Ontario's hospitals.

She indicated the Tories should eliminate the unelected, unaccountable Health Restructuring Commission which has been shutting down hospitals across the province.

McLeod said she would like Harris to live up to his election promises of no cuts to health care by dismantling the commission.

"The big blue bulldozer is devastating our hospitals and scaring our communities, all to satisfy the Tories' desperate need to pay off their tax cut," said McLeod in a recent press release.

"How can Mike Harris and Jim Wilson pretend they are truly concerned about quality care?"

The restructuring commission — handpicked by the Harris government and given power to dictate which hospitals will close — is already cutting $41 million each from hospital budgets in Thunder Bay and Sudbury, and is reducing the number of beds in those communities by 50 per cent and 37 per cent respectively.

"This supposed 'arms-length' commission, under marching orders from Jim Wilson, leaves a path of destruction wherever it goes. It completely ignores local input, community needs and recommendations of district health councils by blindly following the same Tory formula of cut, cut, cut everywhere," said McLeod.

About 15,000 nurses across the province are in jeopardy of losing their jobs because of the cuts, equalling 13 million hours of lost care.

"It's time to stop playing games," she said. "Closing beds and throwing people out of work does not lead to better care. The only thing the Conservatives are truly increasing is the amount of time it takes to get to a hospital."

POLITICS

Tory policies raise environmental concern

Niagara Escarpment Commission facing funding challenges

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

Budgetary belt tightening is the tactic of almost all political camps in Canada these days, both federally and provincially, and when it comes to the environment, there's no exception.

Ingrid Thompson, assistant to Minister of Environment and Energy, Norm Sterling, says while she admits making these cuts is a "pretty chilling job," there is nothing particularly harsh about making cuts to environmental protection bodies such as the Niagara Escarpment Commission, which over the past year has suffered both personnel and funding losses.

The programs and organizations working under the Ministry of Environment and Energy (MOEE) "have indicated that they can maintain their mandates of environmental protection," says Thompson. "There's a definite willingness to shoulder the load together."

There's a new government policy when it comes to funding, says Thompson. "This government is saying we're going to prioritize standards."

She says there is also the consideration that "things could be brought to the private sector, such as laboratory testing, for example, which could be contracted out."

"It's been pretty tough," says Susan Powell, the public affairs officer with the Niagara Escarpment Commission. "By the closing of the Grimsby office for example, we lost several planners, technicians and all this leads to reduced services."

"We've had a change in government whose agenda was getting away from duplication. . . their common sense revolution doesn't address the environment at all, so you get this sense that they just don't care," says Powell.

Rick Brady, a professor at Niagara College's Centre for Environmental Training in St. Catharines, says it shouldn't come as a shock the government is actually going through with these cuts.

"People voted for the current government, they must have known they would do this type of thing or why else did they vote for them in the first place? When this government was elected, they were quite clear they were going to make cuts across the board," he says.

The result, says Brady, is "you're not going to get the level of environmental protection that you used to have, period."

"I understand the NEC is being downsized, (but) I don't know if they're being downsized anymore than anybody else, you have other ministries such as the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, and the Ministry of Environment and Energy" suffering from cutbacks as well, says Brady.

He says the cuts will make the NEC narrow the type of services they provide because they will "be challenged to be more efficient and focus on issues that are directly Niagara Escarpment oriented."

"In fairness to them (the government), they're doing exactly what they said they would," says Brady. "The people that elected them said that's what they wanted and if they don't like it, they'll have a chance to change it" during the next election.

There's a new government policy when it comes to funding

"The bottom line," Thompson says, "is the minister supports an organization" whose objective is to protect valued environmental resources, such as the Niagara Escarpment. There should be a commission for the environment to protect it for future generations.

She says that when the government makes these decisions, they're trying to cater to the needs of the community, plus adhere to its mandate of promoting industry and business, "but not at the expense of the environment."

"The minister has said, the NEC limits business, and yes, there's going to be cuts and lets accept that, but this is not to say that there can't be improvements made," she says.

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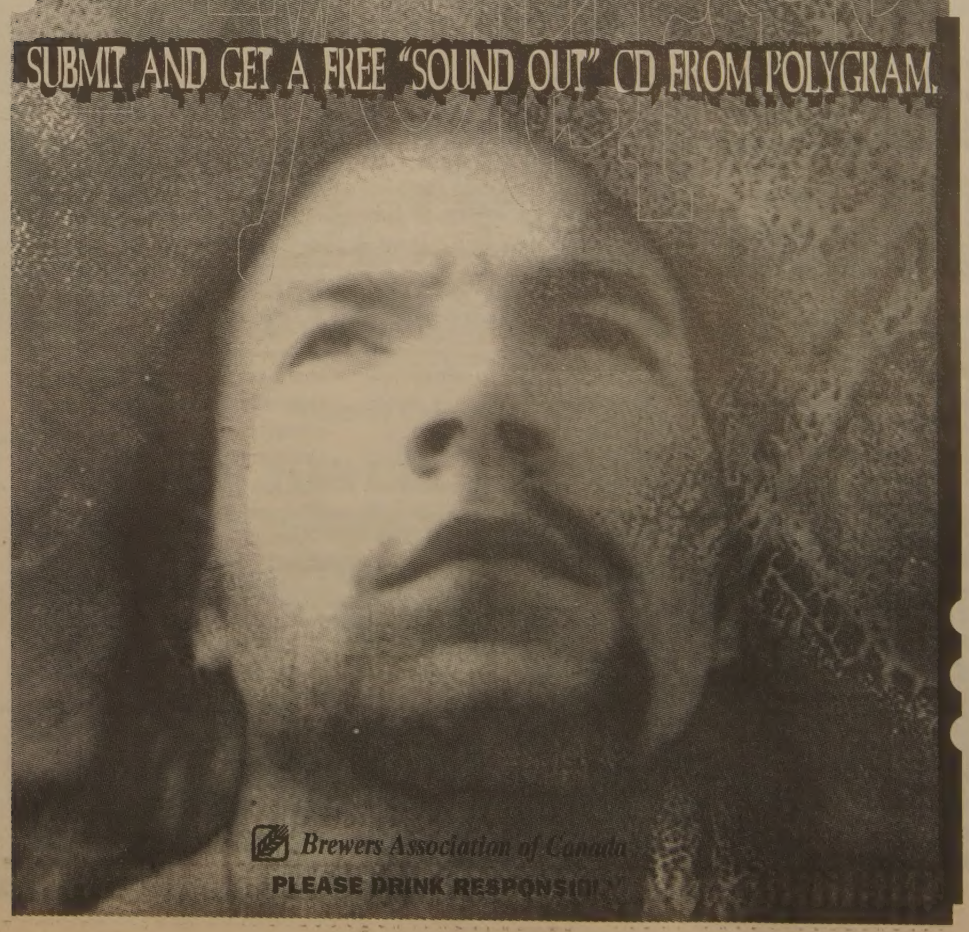

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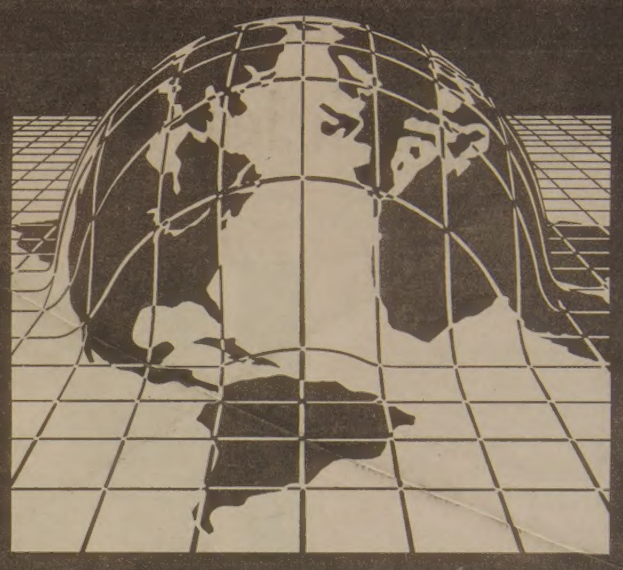


International Days return to Niagara

International students show off their cultures

By HYOJEONG KIM and RICHARD MANCUSO
Staff Writers

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program had its second college-wide International Day on Nov. 6 at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls and on Nov. 7 at the Welland campus.

In front of the Hamilton Room at the Welland campus from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., ESL students displayed their national dishes—Japanese, Polish, Thai, Korean, Colombian and Saudi Arabian.

Students demonstrated name writing in five different languages. Chinese writing instruments and Japanese and Korean games were also displayed.

> ***'We are going to keep trying until we get the right formula . . .'***
> ***- Jos Nolle***

A number of students and faculty stopped at the tables to taste the exotic dishes and the Colombian coffee.

Next to the food tables, Japanese students helped blind-folded students organize card-board eyebrows, eyes, a nose, and a mouth on an outlined face on the table — it's called *fukuarai*, a Japanese traditional game.

"It's really funny. It's educational to know all the background," said Jimmy Kung, 19, a first-year Computer Programmer/Analyst program student.

"This is a good chance for me to try food I never had before," said Pagamorn Chalermwong, 23, a second-year Business Accounting program student.

Besides the display tables, Korean students with a group of other ESL students were shown how to play a Korean traditional game — *chaiggie*.

In the Hamilton Room from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., the film *World Within Reach* was shown. It was introduced by John Kaethler, co-ordinator of International Services of Brock University, who helped make the film.

It was produced by a working group of education-abroad professionals, the Work Study Abroad Network Ontario, whose objectives include the promotion of work and study abroad opportunities through the development and sharing of educational resources.

Jos Nolle, manager of the International Education Department, said he wishes the turnout of Canadian students at the Welland campus had been larger.

"We scheduled it at lunch time, but there were many students who just walked by without stopping," said Nolle.

"The turnout at the Maid of the Mist Center in Niagara Falls was larger but I think that is because the programs there, like Tourism and Hospitality, create more of an interest," he said.

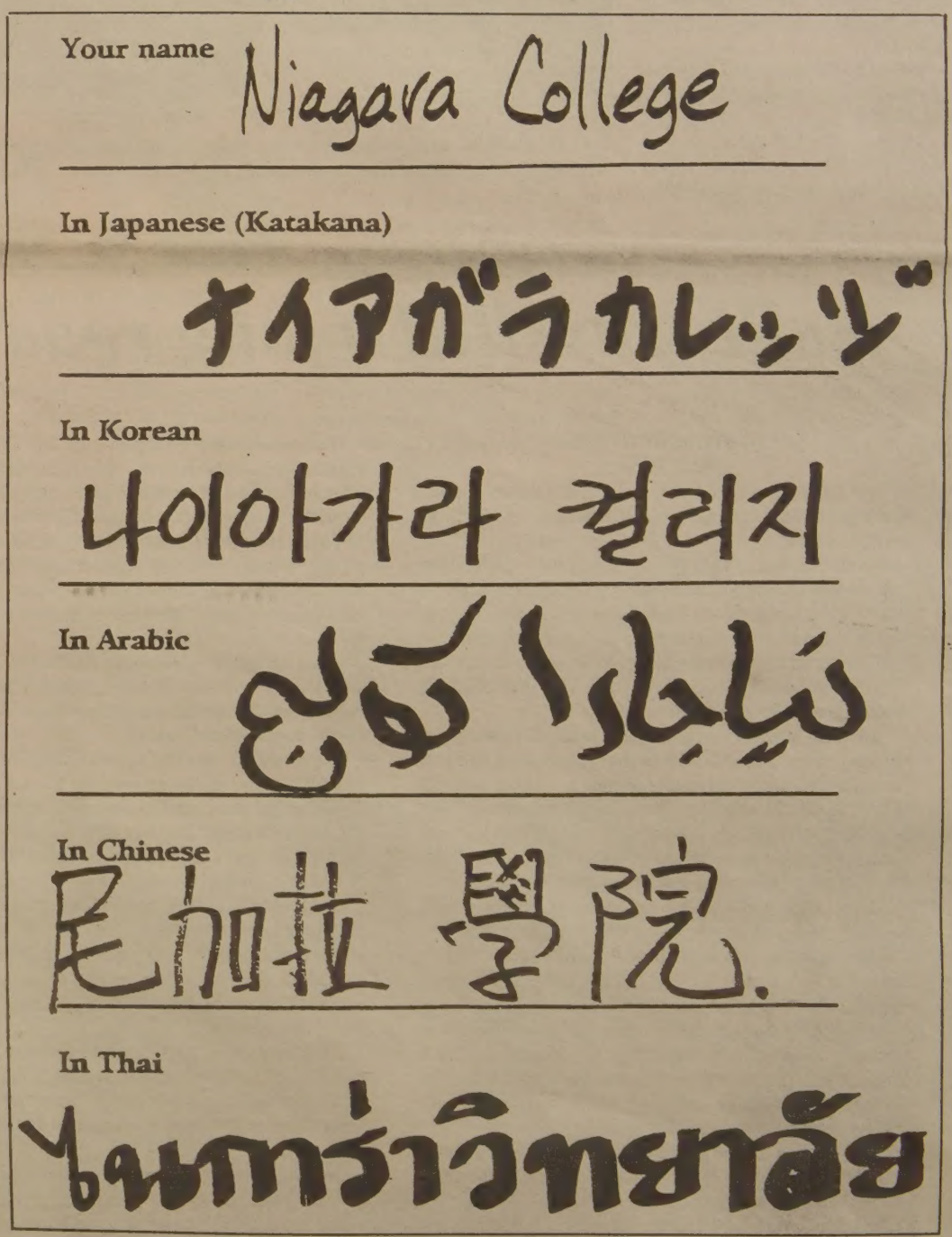
The event at the Welland campus is organized by Susan Vandenboom, co-ordinator of the ESL program; Sean Coote, international student advisor; and Nolle.

Vandenboom organizes the students, Coote sets up tables and displays, and Nolle organizes the speakers and or films which are shown.

The first International Day was held last year, and it is an annual event.

Nolle said he hopes there will be another one next term at the Welland campus to coincide with the day planned for March at the Maid of the Mist Centre.

He said the formula will stay the same, but he hopes some sort of sports will be included. "We are going to keep trying until we get the right formula and get the response we always hope for," said Nolle.



Niagara College written in five different languages during International Day at Welland campus on Nov. 7.

The next International Day is in March at the Maid of the Mist Centre, Niagara Falls campus. All are welcome.

International trade students learn business

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

International trade students at Niagara College recently heard that English and icewine are connected.

Claudia Lopez, 27, an advanced level English as a Second Language student from Colombia, addressed a class of International Trade students at the Welland campus on Nov. 12 about exporting icewine to Colombia.

Lopez, a student at Niagara until December, said it is "very important to know English in (her) country."

She opened her presentation in Spanish, but quickly moved into English. "I'm here to practise," she said.

The seminar was arranged as an exercise for the International Trade Post-diploma program, and because Lopez "wants as much value as possible from her experience and has requested that staff involve her in as many activities as possible," Jos Nolle, manager, International Education for Niagara College, said in a press release.

In her introduction, Lopez said she worked for Brink's Express Co. in Colombia before coming to Canada.

It was a "brave step to leave the security of a job and come here," said Nolle.

Lopez provided the class with first-hand information about Colombia's geography, politics, business and culture.

"People from all over the world try to do business with us," she said, adding business practices there are informal and generally conducted over lunch or dinner when prospective partners "try to get to know about each other."

This and the strong tourism trade were the focus of her argument that icewine would probably sell well in Colombia.

She said it would be a luxury that may not be affordable by the bottle, but rather by the glass after business or vacation dinners.

"It will be expensive, but some will afford it and share with others."

After her talk, the class asked questions.

Pamela Peters, 33, of Miami, Fla., asked about export difficulties like tariffs or import barriers.

Lopez said there would be no government restrictions since icewine would fall in a different market than domestics. "We import a lot of other wines, like Italian" which, she said, are bought in (general) stores.

Peters has studied general arts and sciences and drama at several universities, and was with an international business corporation involved in property investments in Europe for eight years before coming to Niagara.

"Would Colombians be interested in icewine?" asked Sarah Finch, 23, of Fort Erie.

Nolle answered that icewine would fill "a trendy market niche." He added it would be bought as a status symbol.

Lopez has a degree in Business Administration from the University of Colombia.

She said she came to Niagara "to share with people from different cultures."

She said she is looking forward to going home. "I want to get a job in my country, but I have to find something new." Her job at Brink's is not waiting for her.

Lopez said she hopes to go back to business administration.

There has been "a little change inside of me," she said about her time at Niagara. "Without the chance to go to another country, you don't know how to respect other people."

Jos Nolle (left) and Claudia Lopez point at a map of Colombia used in their presentation to International Trade program students Nov. 12.

Photo by Jhim Burwell

Nolle travelled a long road to Niagara College

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

The manager of International Education at Niagara College has six languages and 10 countries of residence on his resume.

Jos Nolle, the manager of International Education, got his master's degree in Industrial Design Engineering from Delft University of Technology in Holland in 1982 and decided that he'd rather travel than be an engineer.

"I came out of university clean, no loans, so I borrowed $20,000 to travel," said Nolle who saw Africa, Asia, Australia and South America during his trip.

When his wanderlust had spent itself, he returned to Holland, spent a couple of months recuperating and then got a job with some university friends at Fokker Aircraft. "My task was in sales and marketing," he said.

Nolle said his travels were a bonus in his interview with Fokker because they wanted a "creative and crazy" guy for its team of salesmen and aeronautic engineers.

"An airplane purchase contract is a book this big," said Nolle, holding his hands about a foot apart.

Nolle was so different from his colleagues that he chose Latin America for his territory despite the fact it was not a hotbed of airplane sales.

He ended up travelling "business class" to Madrid for a couple of days or "Central and South America for a whole trip." This was a big change for a man who saw Africa in a Volkswagen van and "slept on trains at night to save money on hotels."

Nolle said he turned down a position as sales manager for Fokker because of "potential (political) situations" and because his wanderlust was returning.

This was when he was introduced to Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders), "an international development agency which delivers medical assistance to war-torn countries like Bosnia, Somalia and Afganistan," said his resume.

The 32-year-old Nolle became the non-medical co-ordinator in Mozambique. It was a "free-for-all" because of the war, said Nolle about the country that didn't even have reliable phone service.

He co-ordinated a support staff of 500 (drivers, carpenters and pilots) for two "pretty exhausting" years on a budget of $4 million that came mostly from donations from the European community, the U.S. and Canada.

Those two years in Mozambique led to his "settling down" with his wife. She was a Canadian nurse he'd met while travelling in India after university, where she was working for Crossroads (an international medical agency).

After he came to Canada, Doctors without Borders asked him to introduce their service to Canada. He talked with young doctors about the international opportunities of the development agency.

Nolle said he travelled across Canada, from Vancouver to Halifax, and ended up sending Canadian doctors and non-medical personnel to war zones in European teams.

Doctors without Borders then asked Nolle to set up a human resources department because "they never really had one before" and he'd done a good job in Canada. That meant his family needed to move to Amsterdam, Holland, for two years.

The department he established had 12 people working in it by the time he was done, and his time with Doctors without Borders had "ended up at seven years when (he) only planned on two."

Then they came back to Canada to "look into a new career step" and that turned out to be at Niagara College.

The college was looking for "International Business experience and common sense." Nolle started in May 1995.

He said there are three activities involved in his job . . . "well, four but one isn't happening yet."

The top priority is to bring international students to the college.

"It is interesting to have them here for Canadian students," said Nolle.

VISA students pay $4,500 a term, so they also bring a lot of revenue — a total of $1 million — to the school along with the cultural benefits of having them here.

Second, Nolle said he has to manage the "international products" of the college, for example, the Thailand project that college President Dan Patterson visited in early November, and the tourism development project that started in Palestine last summer.

He said he has "to make proposals to the Canadian International Development Agency and then administer them when they are granted."

One new project Nolle is working on will see "a group of Brazilian students here for two weeks during their summer break."

His third goal involves the "internationalization of the college."

Nolle said the textbooks at the college tend to use North American case studies to educate, but students need to be "exposed to different cultural aspects of problem solving. There are the same day to day problems in business all over the world."

He said the need now is for global, rather than regional education, because a smaller world means there is a need for understanding other business practices. "You have to help people get away from (cultural) ignorance."

Electives would be a good way to begin informing students of how diverse the global community is, he said, adding "If you are an educator, you commit yourself to being up to date. Part of that is international issues."

Nolle's fourth goal is related to the success of his third and will see Niagara students going overseas for co-op and work placements.

"There are great exchange possibilities for vocational students." So far, Nolle said, there is "very little interest," but he hopes that it will improve with freer information about things like the Thailand project and with more and more international students coming to Niagara College.

He said he gets "60 to 70 enquiries from international students on E-mail every month. I reply ASAP" to show these people how interested Niagara is in having them come here.

Hospitality and Tourism, and Environmental programs are the main ones marketed to foreign students. Nolle said, "My job is to get students here and projects off the ground."

Colombian student learns through interaction

By HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writer

A 27-year-old Colombian student is not only learning English, but acting as a representive of her home country at college.

Claudia Lopez, from Bogota, Colombia, is assisting Deyanira Benavides from El Salvador, a teacher in the Continuing Education Spanish class, every Monday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Lopez said it was she and Lillian Navarrete, a Mexican student, who decided to do this job, but Navarrete went back to Mexico on Oct. 26.

"The main idea is to give them (students in the Spanish class) a chance to hear different accents," because Benavides, Navarrete and Lopez are from different countries.

CLAUDIA LOPEZ

She said her job is "not teaching" but "assisting the teacher."

She said she gives the students "cultural tips" about her home country because she wants them to understand about Latin American culture as well.

Before she came to Canada in September, Lopez worked 4 1/2 years for a security company in Colombia after she got her bachelor's degree in business administration.

Not only does she help the Spanish class, but she is involved in other activities at the college.

Lopez said she wanted to get more experience and learn more about Canadian culture.

"I said to Jos (Jos Nolle, manager of International Education Department), 'I want to do something else rather than just come here and study English,'" and he got her involved in some activities at the college, she said.

> *'The main idea is to give them a chance to hear different accents.'*
> *-Claudia Lopez*

Because she is the first student from Colombia, Nolle said he wants to know about her country.

Lopez presented a case study to the students in the International Trade (Post-diploma) program on exporting icewine to Colombia with Nolle on Nov. 12.

On Nov. 21, she will be one of the panelists at the Doing Business in Latin America presentation as part of the Speakers' Series at the college, sponsored by the International Education Department.

Also, she will be the guest speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Welland Rotary Club on Dec. 3. She will talk about her experiences in Canada.

"Because she is an international student, she is not allowed to get any money from the college," but the college would like to pay her homestay fee for one month for all her activities at the college, said Nolle.

Maid of the Mist students enjoy international treats.
Photo by Gretta Rossi

Mexican artwork adds to International Day festivities.
Photo by Gretta Rossi

Program on cutting edge

CRAIG EDWARDS

By COLIN HUNEAULT
Staff Writer

International Trade program students at Niagara College are on the cutting edge of international business.

Craig Edwards, a graduate of the International Trade program, is working to ensure the skills of students are marketable in today's business.

Edwards recruits businesses that are willing to participate in the development of students through internships.

He says the hands-on approach is "very effective" in sharpening students' skills.

"We're all working together in achieving a common goal."

He says companies need people involved in international trade and are looking at students with the appropriate background.

"Companies are realizing that they need the education if they are going to make it happened," says Malcolm Howe, co-ordinator of the International Trade program.

Edwards, along with Niagara College president Dan Patterson, recently spoke with Canadian Consulate General Mark Romoff in Buffalo.

Edwards says he is "pleased to see that Romoff was strongly promoting trade."

He says government officials, individuals from the private sector and educational representatives are working together.

The Canadian Consulate, Niagara Economic and Tourism (NET core) and the St. Catharines Chamber of Commerce are strong supporters of the program, said Edwards.

Both organizations act as a resource centre on marketing, while providing internship for students.

Edwards praises the work of Patterson.

"Dan Patterson is doing a great job. He realizes that the school needs to remain entrepreneurial.

"I believe very strongly that the International Trade Program should be our important project," said Patterson. He said the program is "top notch."

"Canada's economy is built on exports," says Edwards. "The high percentage of exports go into the U.S."

> *'Top notch'*
> *— Dan Patterson*

Consequently, the program has been designed around the North American Free Trade Agreement.

Edwards says the program places students at the leading edge.

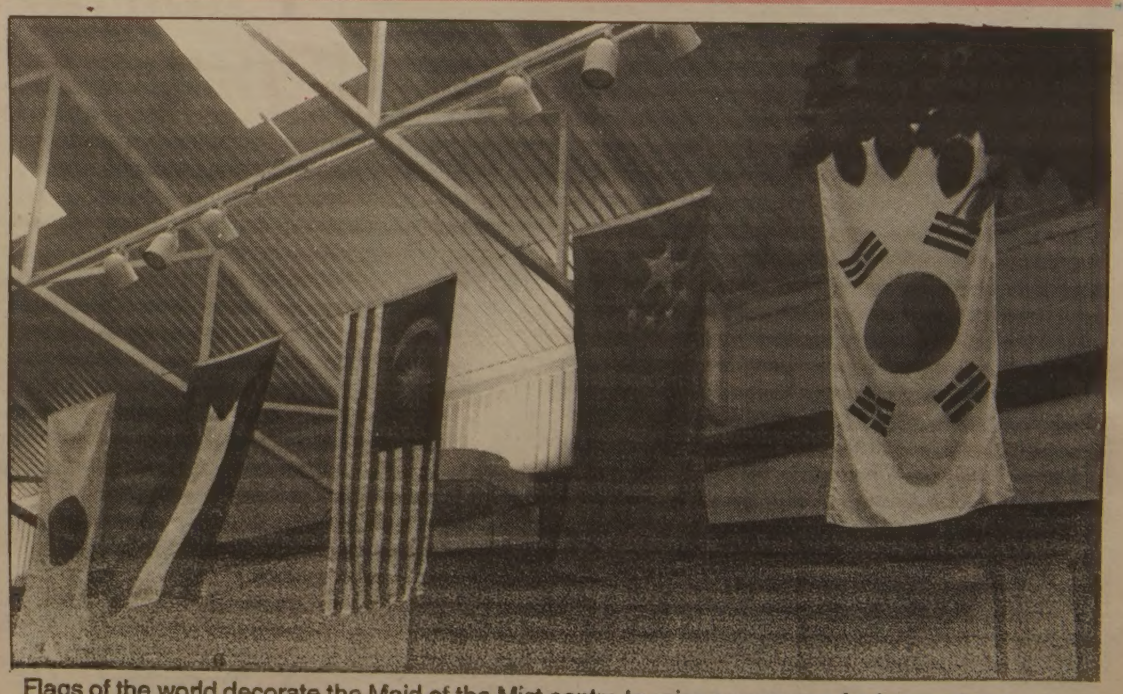
He says it is important for the International Trade program to be adaptable.

The "on-going evolution" of the program is necessary and is encouraged by the instructors.

He says "it is imperative" to meet the needs of the working community.

"Students must be able to perform globally. They can't be afraid to go into other countries.

"Our students are preparing companies for the global market," says Edwards.



Flags of the world decorate the Maid of the Mist centre to raise awareness for international students.

Photo by Gretta Rossi

Bread making shows Canadian culture

Students mix, bake and learn

By HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writer

Flour, yeast, sugar, salt, a bowl at each corner of the table — all were set up to welcome students to make bread.

Mary Lou Eden, a teacher in the English as a Second Language program, stood around the table with her "kids (ESL students)."

Eden started explaining her recipe which was posted on the door by the table.

Then she divided all 12 students into four groups and made sure they wouldn't speak their own language.

"Now, what's the first thing you want to do?" Eden asked the students.

"Wash our hands!" replied Chia-Feng Lee, 21, of Taiwan.

After mixing all the materials, they started kneading, taking turns.

Looking at their white hands, the students couldn't help laughing.

"Don't drop flour on the floor!" said Eden.

"I can't wait to finish it. It just smells perfect. Yumm. . . " said Lee while waiting for the bread to be baked in the oven.

"I've never tried to make bread in Japan," said Kana Kurata, 21, of Japan.

Eden, 56, of Beamsville, Ont., said she has brought ESL students to her home to bake bread once or twice a term since 1992.

"A lot of kids come from a culture built on rice . . ." she said. "They have not realized that our culture is built on wheat."

Eden said to teach them how to make bread would be a "better way" to show how Canadians use wheat.

Minako Obikane, 25, of Japan, who participated in this bread-making project said it is an "interesting" thing to experience.

Over the years, Eden said she discovered "an easy recipe," using instant yeast which makes baking time shorter.

"If I got them to make bread the old fashion way — the way I make it myself with the traditional yeast — that would make the kids get home late," Eden said.

ESL students are putting butter in aluminum bowls to bake bread. From the left are Pagamorn Chalermwong, Minako Obikane, Reiko Higashimoto, Izabela Weber, Uthumporn Bunsamran.
Photo by Hyojeong Kim

She said she usually drives the students home after making bread.

"Usually, they like it quite a bit, and quite often they want to come back again and again," she said.

"The only problem is to get the kids to take a little bit to their host mother because they usually eat it before they get home," said Eden.

How beautiful we are

Two Korean students, Min-Hwa Kee (left) and Hyun-Ah Yun, are wearing Korean traditional dress for the International Day.
Photo by Hyojeong Kim

Lucero Ortiz Orea is dressed in a Mexican costume lends a festive touch to the Maid of the Mist's International Day.
Photo by Gretta Rossi

Come to Tai Chi

Those interested in Tai Chi are invited to join a Tai Chi Club at the college's Welland campus. The group meets each Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Membership is $1. No special clothes are required. A Tai Chi instructor is available.

Ask at the Student Administrative Council office for more details.

NIAGARA COLLEGE CANADA

Florida provides opportunities

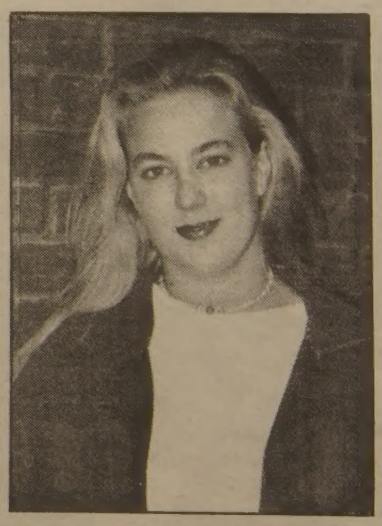
By SHELLEY PARKES
Staffwriter

A Niagara Falls student gets a "once in a lifetime opportunity" in Florida.

Carolyn Dam, 19, of Fenwick, is a graduate of the Travel and Tourism program at the Niagara College campus in Niagara Falls.

She is planning to live in Orlando, Fla.

After representatives from Disney World in Florida presented at the school in August on working down south, Dam said she knew she wanted to go.



CAROLYN DAM

She filled out a resume and went through a two-hour interview in September to find out if she was Disney World material.

"They are very strict on appearance and behavior because they are very family oriented," she said.

"You have to have your natural hair color, one ring on a hand, one hole in each ear and point with two fingers because you don't want to be accused of giving someone the finger."

She received a call in October saying she was hired. She has to be there by April 28. She will be working about 30 hours in a five-day week.

"During the busy season we are expected to work overtime even if it is until 2 a.m."

She said she is not complaining because "it's a great job to have, and a once in a lifetime opportunity."

Dam must find her own transportation to Florida, but if she fulfills a one-year contract, her travel costs will be refunded.

She said she thinks she will be working at a food and beverage cart in the Canada building, but the workers will be trained on different jobs and put on what they are the best at.

Dam will be living in the Vistaway with five other employees. "They are beautiful townhouses"

The workers are from different countries. They will have their own recreational area, with a gym, pool and a lake called "Lake Little Brian."

A bus will pick them up and take them to the costume area to pick up their uniforms, which are cleaned everyday.

Dam said this may not be what she wants to do forever, but as an alumni she could work for a Disney-run cruiseline afterwards.

"It will be an excellent experience and great for my resume," she said, "but I'll miss everyone too much."

FEATURES

CD-ROM going the distance

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

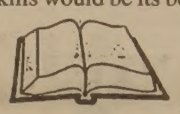
Brian Green, a favorite teacher of many students, is at it again.

This time it's the Broadcasting - Radio, Television and Film program teacher's involvement in a project for a new CD-ROM based on his book, *The Bare Essentials*, co-written with Sarah Norton of Centennial College in Scarborough.

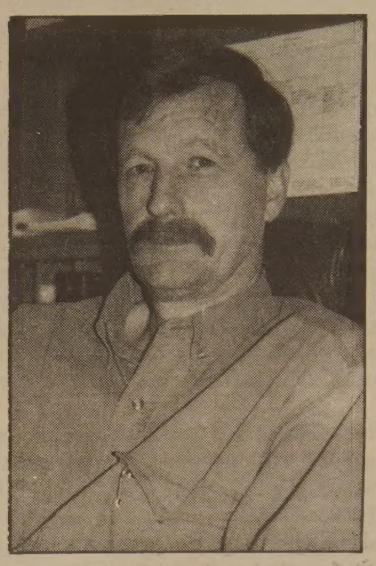
The Bare Essentials is a text aimed at helping students learn and master the basics of grammar and grammar usage. The instruction is backed by examples and exercises to help students.

More and more colleges and universities are viewing distance and independent learning as a viable form of study, and Confederation College in Thunder Bay is no exception.

The college was interested in a CD-ROM for independent study with appeal to a large audience, and decided a program teaching basic writing skills would be its best bet.



Enter Green, Norton, and their publisher — Harcourt Brace. Along with Confederation College, the two teachers and publisher have teamed to produce the CD-ROM.



BRIAN GREEN

"There are 22 colleges offering English" and therefore this choice of material would give "better bang for the buck," says Green. "It's a valuable course and a really good refresher."

Green developed a game as part of the CD, where students would test their ability to use an apostrophe.

"Ah, yes, the apostrophe game," says Dave Robinson, co-ordinator of Niagara College's Interactive Multimedia program.

Green approached Robinson to see if Interactive Multimedia program students would be interested in working on the game. So far, nine students have volunteered.

"It's good experience," says Robinson.

Green says he was in the open access computer lab at Niagara one day, and noticed many blue screens — students playing solitaire.

He says he wondered if he could come up with "a game more meaningful.

"Games are great ways to learn."

Green says he spent hours playing Super Mario and learned how to kill a mushroom.

The goal is to make a game challenging enough to make the person want to play it over and over, and he says, adding why not make it a game where the player is learning more than just how to kill a mushroom.

Green will drive tonight to Thunder Bay to present the pilot project to the Council of Presidents, a group that includes all college presidents in Ontario.

"Presumably they'll take it to their English departments" for their opinions, Green says.

The project goes "way beyond" what was originally planned, he says. "It's a win-win situation for everybody.

"I'm really, really enthused."

Running around for the fun of it

By RICHARD MANCUSO
Staff Writer

Jos Nolle, manager of the International Education Department, made a quick trip to New York City on Nov. 3. This trip wasn't business, but it wasn't exactly a vacation either.

Nolle went to the Big Apple to run in the New York City Marathon.

The marathon, which is 26.2 miles or 42 kilometers long, started in Staten Island, continued through Brooklyn, Queen's, Manhattan, the South Bronx, and back into Manhattan and finished at Central Park.

This is the second time Nolle had run in the marathon, the first being in 1991.

Nolle said there is a lot of training involved in running in the marathon.

He started training the first time three months before the race. His finishing time was four hours.

Nolle said he ran seven or eight km a day and even longer on the weekends. "The training is very exhausting and not very social since you usually do it alone."

Nolle said in 1991 when he decided to run, it was simply for the experience of running in a marathon at least once in his life. This time when he decided to run, he did it to get in shape.

Nolle played soccer this summer with a friend because he realized how out of shape he was. Both he and his friend decided to run in the marathon and started training. "I think I lost 10 pounds while training this summer," laughs Nolle.

"I don't think I'll become an annual marathon runner, maybe later in life when my kids are grown up."

Nolle said New York City is a "great place" to run. There are all of the people there "to see you run" and when the runners went through, there were bands playing on the street, he said.

About 30,000 runners from 70 countries entered this year's race, with about 8,000 volunteers handing out water and food to the runners.

"I had a great time,"said Nolle.

Get pumped in the college gymnasium

Free access for students

By BRANDY FORD
Staff Writer

Stop making excuses.

Get off the couch and jog to Niagara College's fitness room because it's time to get in shape!

The fitness room overlooks the gymnasium in the Mackenzie Building at the Welland campus. There are various types of equipment to firm thighs, tone muscles and improve other body parts.

There are several rowing and step machines, a universal gym, free weights and plenty of stationary bikes to ride.

Posted on the walls are guidelines for stretches and instructions on using the equipment.

First-year Recreation Leadership program student Andrea Rive and first-year Business Administration program student Megan Roose make it a habit to work out three times a week.

'We're on the volleyball team, so we . . . train up here before we practice," said Rive, 18.

Roose, 20, said the room is "convenient," but it's "too quiet."

"They need music," she said.

Rive said a "sign or arrow" is needed to point it out, because she "didn't even know there was a weight room."

Roose said she agrees the room should be advertised to students more.

She discovered it by chance.

"I came to practice one day and I looked up and saw people on steppers," she said. "Somebody told me it was a weight room . . . I didn't even know it was here."

Alaina Arbour, 20, said she likes the fact "there's barely any people" in the fitness room because it's "quiet and peaceful."

Arbour, a first-year Legal Assistant program student, said she works out "every Thursday" and her "favorite thing about the room is it's free."

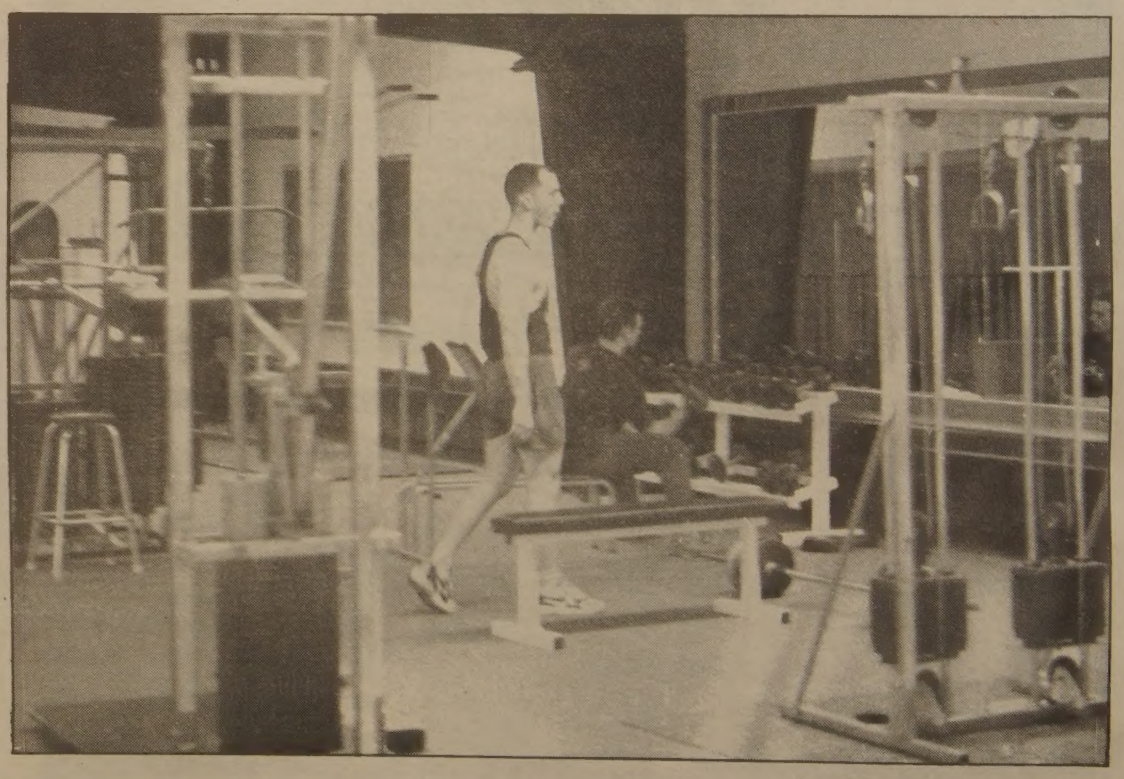
There are lockers in the change rooms to store belongings, but students must bring their own lock.

There are also showers in the change rooms.

Students have free access to the fitness room between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. on weekdays, but it is closed one hour before all varsity home games.

Students must have proper gym clothes on while working out and can't wear street shoes.

Beverages in disposable containers aren't allowed in the weight room, but water bottles are permitted.



Niagara College students are pumping iron in the weight room.

Photo by Brandy Ford

HEALTH MATTERS

For sufferers, headaches are no joke

By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

"Not tonight, honey. I have a headache."

This now-famous excuse is used in many a sitcom and comedy routine, but realistically, headaches are no joke.

Just ask those who suffer from them.

Headache is a serious problem that affects 59 per cent of Canadians age 15 or older, according to a two-year study completed in 1990.

This survey also found that 17 per cent of adults surveyed suffered from migraines, while 30 per cent reported tension-type headaches.

From this, it was determined that 3.2 million Canadians suffer from migraine, and 5.8 million get tension-type headaches.

According to the survey, 79 per cent of migraine sufferers said their headaches affected relationships with their friends and family.

A significant number of patients with headaches complained of misdiagnosis, have low regard for their physicians ability to care for their headaches and are not satisfied with their medications.

The International Headache Society (ICS) has a headache classification, comprising 96 pages and 129 types of head pain.

The most commonly known are migraine (with or without aura), tension-type headache (chronic or episodic) and cluster. There are also mixes of tension and migraine headaches.

The aura associated with migraines refers to the focal neurological symptoms that may or may not precede a migraine.

Migraines without an aura describe the disorder characterised by recurrent headaches that usually last about four to 72 hours. The pain is moderate to severe and is typically unilateral (occurring on one side only) and pulsating.

They are aggravated by routine physical activity and are associated with nausea, phonophobia (extreme sensitivity to sound), and photophobia (extreme sensitivity to light). Most patients have migraines without auras. These are recurrent and episodic.

The aura associated with some migraines describes the neurological symptoms that may be visual (typically bright, shimmering moving obscurations) or sensory (unilateral pins and needles, numbness, weakness or speech disturbance). This usually develops over five to 20 minutes and usually lasts less than an hour.

Headaches, nausea and/or photophobia usually follow the aura within an hour. The headache, which usually lasts four to 72 hours, could also be absent. Usually those who experience an aura also have a headache without an aura as well.

Episodic tension-type headaches last from minutes to days. The pain is typically a pressure or tightening feeling, is mild to moderately severe and is bilateral (occurs on both sides). It does not worsen with physical activity and nausea is absent.

Chronic tension-type headaches occur daily or almost daily, and are usually a tightening or pressure pain. It is bilateral and mild to moderately severe.

Cluster headaches are named because they usually occur in a series or cluster, lasting for weeks or months. They are separated by remission periods of months or years. Men are five to six times more likely to suffer from these than woman. The age of onset is between 20 to 40.

The attacks are unilateral and last 15 minutes to three hours and occur every other day up to eight times a day. The pain recurs on the same side of the head and during the worst attacks is excruciating. Nasal congestion, teariness and forehead and facial sweating are associated with cluster headaches.

Migraine headaches have many triggers. These triggers can be different from person to person. Emotional stress at home, at work or in social settings can cause them as can missing a meal or sleeping more or less than usual. Bright or flickering lights, foods and beverages (such as chocolate, cheese, cured meat, alcoholic beverages and caffinated beverages) and drugs (including oral contaceptives) can be triggers.

Doctors will conduct a SANE (Safe Adequate Neurological Exam) to rule out any abnormalities that could cause a headache when a patient comes in complaining of them.

There are treatments available to help patients deal with headaches. If you suffer, know that you are not alone and your doctor can help.

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Self-examination a must

By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

Monthly breast self-examinations are important, even for young women, says Carolyn Hurst.

Hurst, the nurse for Niagara College's health centre at the Welland campus, said this helps young women get to know the way their breasts feel.

"Men should examine their breasts too," she said.

Men have been known to find malignant lumps in the tissue in their chest as well.

"What we want to know is what the norm is, so we can know there's a problem when we get older," said Hurst.

Self-examinations should be done at the same time every month, the best time being seven to 10 days after the start of monthly menstruation.

There are a number of recognized ways of doing self-examinations. One way is the clock method. Imagine your breast is a clock. Starting at the 12, using the flat pads of your fingers, press gently but firmly and make small overlapping circles from your collarbone to your nipple. Continue this around the "clock" without missing a number.

Remember to carefully examine the tissue below the armpit, as it also contains breast tissue.

One preferred method is to examine your breasts in the shower. With flat, soapy fingers, touch every part of each breast, feeling for any lump or thickening. Use your left hand to examine your right breast and your right hand to examine your left breast.

If you prefer to do an exam before the mirror, look carefully for changes in size, shape and contour in each breast with your arms at your side, then raised. Look for puckering, dimpling or changes in skin texture, color or rashes. Look for changes in each nipple, such as if it has become pulled in.

With one hand on your hip, tense and push your arm forward to make a pocket under your arm, and check this area as you would using the "clock" method. Change arms, and repeat for the other side.

Using the circular motion, check the underarm and side rib cage area. Rest your arm on a firm surface to do this.

Another way to examine your breasts is by lying down. To balance your breast on your chest place a pillow or towel under your right shoulder and place your right hand behind your head. Examine your right breast with your left hand. Repeat on the other side.

If you find any changes or abnormalities, see your physician.

Chances of surviving breast cancer increase dramatically with early detection.

Escarpment a national treasure

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

There can't be many Ontarians who actually know how large this glorious green tract of land really is.

It's an internationally renowned ecosystem which harbors the greatest concentration of cold-water streams in southern Ontario. Hosts of unique 1000-year-old Eastern White Cedars, together with its surrounding lands, make it the largest forested area in southern Ontario. It has been deemed an "invaluable" wildlife refuge.

At the northwest tip of this beautiful, heightened topographical belt lies Canada's first underwater national park, the Fathom Five National Marine Park. Hundreds of kilometers to the south-east, gushes one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural World—Niagara Falls.

An international treasure—the Niagara Escarpment.

Yet, as epic as this expansive environmental wonder is, only one thing prevents the cropping up of "great big golden arches" along this lovely landscape, says Susan Powell of the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC).

"A lot of people want to build like crazy," says Powell, public affairs officer for the commission. But thanks to the NEC, which represents the first large environmental preservation plan in Canada, municipal governments and business groups alike must apply to the NEC for assessment and permission before embarking on any development or construction plans along the escarpment.

The NEC was originally formed as a temporary agency in 1973 with the objective of establishing a binding "modelistic plan" for preserving the escarpment. Each municipality was to be responsible for obeying the plan, says Martin Kilian, an environmental planner who has been with the NEC for 15 years.

> *'We're hanging by a thread'*
>
> *-Martin Kilian*

But because of concern, city governments might not embrace the plan due to their own economic and expansionist needs. "The NEC stayed on in order to safeguard community planning," says Kilian.

Powell says the NEC was "a provincial government initiative" to provide protection for the Niagara Escarpment and to ensure that development didn't endanger the "sensitive" natural ecosystem.

"The municipalities are tax based oriented and have different agendas," she says, "which we have the power to override."

The Niagara Escarpment is one of the six biospheres in Canada, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has designated the escarpment a World Biosphere Reserve, says Powell, who has been with the NEC for seven years.

"The Ministry of Environment and Energy (MOEE) is essentially our regulating body, and it's our mandate to implement the Niagara Escarpment plan," she says. "Our people are very dedicated to protecting the escarpment."

However, a funding cut last November by the MOEE, from $2.3 million to $1,463,000 and a NEC staff reduction of 35 down to 21, which lead to the closing of the NEC's Grimsby office in May, in addition to causing resentment within the organization, also raised the question of whether or not the NEC would be able to effectively enact their mandate.

"There is a lot of resentment on the whole," says Kilian. "We think that the government has slashed too far and done it too fast. They (the provincial government) feel we're a big, fat, laden organization that needs to go on a diet."

The cuts have resulted in the NEC losing several planners, technicians and a number of clerical staff, such as secretaries and receptionists, says Kilian. He says "the cuts have formed challenges to manage without things that we once had," even such things as filing, faxing, and photocopying, have all been made the responsibilities of those remaining.

"Everybody can become conscious and make an effort to save money in a different way," said Kilian, but with cuts so deep "you can't just balance out in the end, these cuts will cause a lack of services."

Ontario's Niagara Escarpment

"People don't realize the magnitude of this kind of land feature in the province," he says, "and the provincial government don't have anything in place. They haven't explained how they're going to look after the environment in the manner we've come to expect."

Although the government has scheduled more cuts in the coming months, Kilian says he's basically trying to see the situation as a challenge. "We're hanging by a thread," he said, "but we're basically doing it."

Green treasure

Point's of interest about Ontario's Niagara Escarpment:

* There are over 60 waterfalls on the Escarpment, including the world famous Niagara Falls - one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural World.

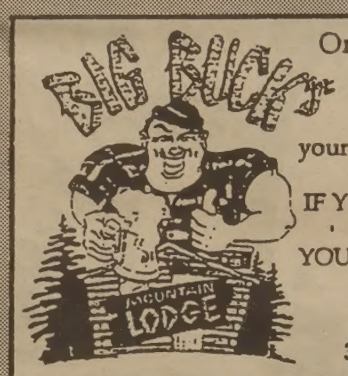
* The Escarpment contains the best exposures in the world of 450-million-year-old fossils from the Ordovician and Silurian eras.

* The slowest growing trees in the world are found on the Escarpment. These Eastern White Cedars are the oldest trees in eastern North America, and have rooted on the escarpment for up to 1000 years.

* The Bruce Trail, Canada's oldest and longest hiking trail follows the Escarpment 775 km from Niagara to Tobermory. It connects more than 120 parks on the Escarpment. These provide a habitat for trout and great fishing opportunities.

* The greatest concentration of cold-water streams in southern Ontario are located on the Escarpment.

* The Niagara Escarpment Parks System, together with private lands along the Escarpment, constitutes the largest continuous forested area in southern Ontario. This makes it an invaluable wild life refuge in the heart of Canada's most heavily developed region.



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THE SPORTS CORNER

One for all and all for one

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

Home was not so sweet for Niagara College's men's basketball team.

Niagara opened its home season by losing two games.

Medaille College of Buffalo defeated Niagara 91-62 on Nov. 16, while Niagara lost 112-68 to Sheridan College of Oakville on Nov. 12.

In its first game, Niagara committed 29 team fouls including four technical fouls.

Two of those technicals came because of head coach Randy Conlon and resulted in his ejection from the game.

"We picked up some stupid technicals," said Conlon. "I picked up a couple. I apologize for those. I don't think I should have gotten the second one — the first one I deserved."

Conlon said in the first half Niagara got "killed on the offensive boards."

"We have to clean the glass," said Conlon. "We have to take care of the boards."

Niagara gave up 59 points in the first half, while scoring 33 points.

"They scored 59 points in the first half, that's horrible," said Conlon. "If we can't hold a team under 59 points in a half we shouldn't be playing."

However, Conlon said it wasn't because of a lack of effort. "Mentally, we just disappeared."

In the second game, Niagara didn't fare any better losing to Medaille 91-62.

Although Niagara was only behind by eight point in the first half, Medaille got hot in the second and buried Niagara.

"We broke down mentally and they caught fire," said Conlon. "It's a combination of them playing really well and us giving them baskets."

Conlon said "a bunch of little things added up and Niagara ended up getting crushed."

Niagara scored 68 points in the first game and only 62 points in the second, something Conlon said "was terrible."

"Offensively right now we're brutal," he said. "Sixty-two points in our league isn't going to win many games."

Niagara commited 37 turnovers in the second game.

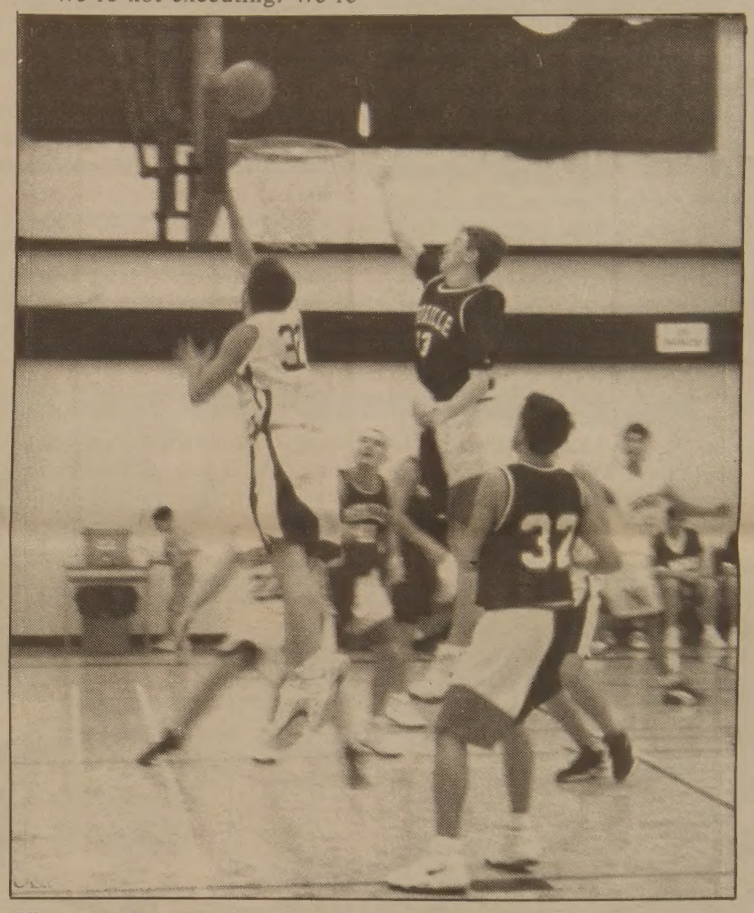
"We're not executing. We're coming down and we're scrambling," said Conlon. "We're not finishing at all."

The high scorer in both games was Mike Harris with 17 points in the first game and 21 points in the second.

Conlon said the individual points weren't important.

"We win as a team and we lose as a team. We work hard, but we disappear mentally sometimes."

Niagara's next home game is against Lambton College from Sarnia on Friday, Nov. 29, at 8 p.m.



Niagara's Pete Mosley takes it strong to the hoop.
Photo by Randy Syer

A quick start

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

The Niagara College men's volleyball team off to a quick start.

Niagara opened its regular season with a three games to two win over Cambrian College of Sudbury on Nov. 16.

Niagara lost its first two games to the defending west division champion, Cambrian 19-9 and 15-11, then stormed back to win the next three matches 15-13, 16-14 and 15-11 to take the match.

In the last match, Niagara fought back from an eight to two deficit to win the game and the match.

"The team showed a lot of heart," said head coach Blair Cudmore. "We're fighting some key injuries right now."

Niagara got a strong effort from second-year player Pat Deschambeault who had 15 kills and four blocks for 19 points.

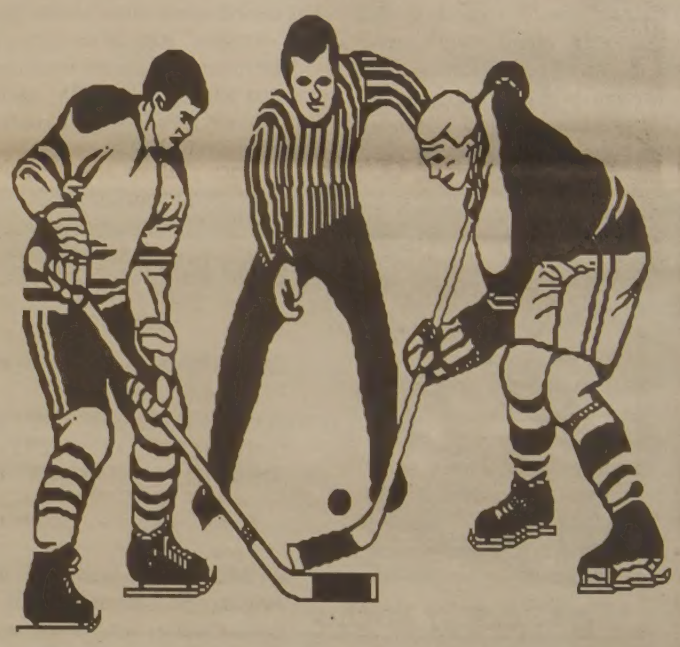
Other scorers were Chris Wiarsma, who had 17 points including four aces, Paul Clark who had 13 kills for 17 points, Kerby Bentley had 13 points, Stacey Kay added three points, while Shawn Reimer had two points in five games.

"It's our hope to be nationally ranked after beating Cambrian," said Cudmore. "We would like to get to the finals this year."

Cudmore said they wanted to better their third-place finish in the west of a year ago.

First-year player Bentley said Niagara "has a lot of potential. We still have a lot of work to do."

The men's volleyball team's next home game is against Genesee College, near Buffalo, N.Y., on Saturday at 1 p.m. It is an exhibition game.



Maple Leaf Gardens is the talk of the town

By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

There's a sense of pride and excitement in our voices when Maple Leaf Gardens is mentioned on the streets of Toronto and neighboring communities.

The question being asked nowadays is, should the Toronto Maple Leafs receive a new hockey arena?

While it's rather nondescript in appearance, Toronto's arena will be the last remaining building used from the days of the "Original Six" after the Montreal Canadiens, Boston Bruins and Chicago Blackhawks all moved into new buildings.

For me as a Leaf fan, my thoughts are stuck between the two, the Gardens or a new arena? The Gardens or some high-tech modern arena?

I support keeping Maple Leaf Gardens.

Maple Leaf Gardens was an architectural marvel of its time.

It was built during the depression when investment funds were scarce and financiers skeptical.

The Gardens was built in 5 1/2 months, less than one quarter the time needed to build SkyDome.

Opening night, Nov. 12, 1931, the Maple Leafs lost a 2-1 game to the Chicago Blackhawks.

The capacity crowd of 13,233 was amazed with the new facility. Seat prices ranged from 95 cents to $2.75.

Wow, what I would do to have those prices back again for hockey tickets.

Since opening night, the Gardens has experienced many changes, many of which reflect advancements in technology.

Flood lights were installed in 1935. Glass replaced the link fence that lined the boards in 1947. In 1955 escalators were added to assist spectators in getting to their seats.

They are calling to you: 'Maple Leaf Gardens'

There were 67 private boxes completed in 1981 with an additional 16 "super boxes" added in 1991. The most recent private box addition reduced the seating capacity to 15,646.

Concession and souvenir stands were upgraded and enlarged in 1992-93.

For the past 60 years the Gardens has grown. It has changed its interior and exterior to meet today's modern times.

Although some say the wiring and plumbing is old. I don't see any problems with that as long as there are electricians and plumbers who know what they're doing. Why take away a part of someone's dreams of seeing the Toronto Maple Leafs at the Gardens, or one day playing on the ice.

Listen as you go up the escalator and past the many pictures, smells and people. They're calling to you: "Maple Leaf Gardens."

Look at the walls as you go to your seats. There hang memories and pictures of hockey's greatest players and future stars.

Sit in the cramped seats and eat the hot dogs that cost more than the tickets themselves.

Those are all the things I look forward to when I go to the Gardens.

There's not a bad seat in the arena, no matter where you are. Whether it be the golds, greens or greys, you're going to see Wendel Clark slam someone against the boards or see a quick save by Felix Potvin.

You'll be able to see the banners hanging from the rafters.

The Maple Leafs in their glory days.

After my Oct. 29 visit to the Gardens seeing the L.A. Kings playing Toronto, it brought a sense of spirit to me. It's so full of tradition and history.

I can finally appreciate my grandfather's words. He says that Maple Leaf Gardens will always live and be a part of our past, present and future.

Why change something just for economic reasons?

Voice your opinion, Maple Leaf fans, should our home leave 60 Carlton St., in Toronto?

THE SPORTS CORNER

Women's basketball defeats D'Youville

BY PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

The Niagara College women's basketball team defeated D'Youville College from Buffalo, N.Y., 55-46 on Nov. 16.

Manie Roy was the top scorer with 22 points. Stephanie Lawson added seven points, Ingrid Wells, seven, Stephanie Kranjec, six, Elsa Herzberg, five, and Michelle Pring and Amanda Duncan added two each.

It was a hard effort put out by the Niagara players in the first half. By halftime that effort had paid off with the Knights ahead by 16 points.

Stephanie Lawson fouled out of the game in the second half, but put out a strong effort for the team.

By the last four minutes of the game, Niagara was ahead by six points.

They struggled and were asked by coach Brian Bleich "not to foul."

By the end of the game, the team was exhausted but proud of its effort.

On Nov. 17, the Niagara team played Genesse Community College from Buffalo, N.Y., but was defeated 74-30.

Roy was again the top scorer with 12 points. Pring added nine points, Andrea Flindall, five, and Lawson added four.

The players struggled with their shots, rebounds, and high spirits, and by the half were losing by 24 points.

A Genesee Community College player injured her wrist while fouling Lawson.

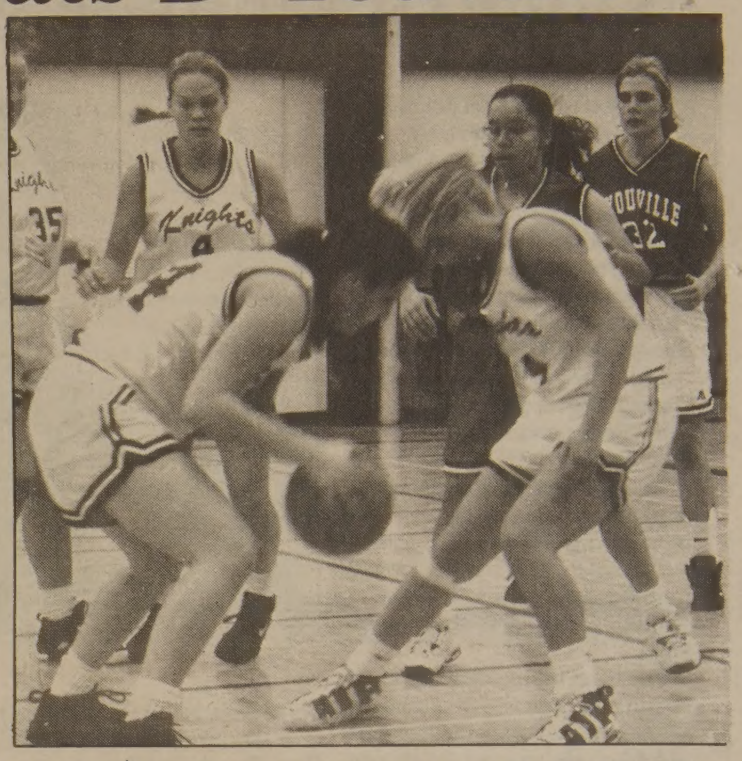
None of the Niagara players fouled out of the game.

On Nov. 12, the Knights travelled to Durham College in Oshawa. The Knights were defeated 71-56, but the score did not reflect how hard the Knights made the Durham Lords work.

"This was one of the top-seeded teams in the province which we faced and our team is made up of mostly rookies," said Bleich.

Roy led the Knights with 22 points. Lawson added 13 points, Pring, seven, and Stephanie Kranjec had six points.

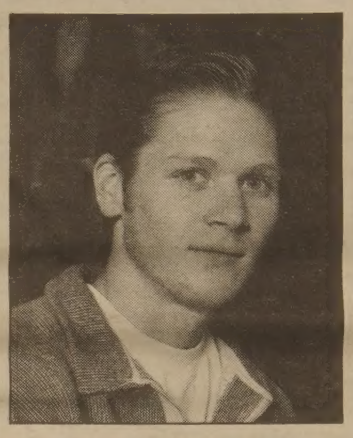
The women play tonight here against George Brown College from Toronto at 6 p.m.



Manie Roy (with ball) storms down the court as her teammates pave the way.

Photo by Penni Toneguzzo

Learning mental toughness



By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

One of the most important rules in sport is to keep your head in the game.

As athletes grow up, they find they need mental toughness.

Mental toughness is something athletes aren't born with but are taught throughout their athletic career.

Sure, athletic ability can get them far, but to make the next step, they need mental toughness.

The next step could be community college sports or the National Basketball League — the top level to which an athlete can reach in a career.

Sometimes they get caught in the heat of battle, but that's no reason for them to lose control.

Once athletes stop thinking, their game deteriorates.

If a call goes against an athlete, whether fair or not, the athlete has to let it slide off his back.

A referee is not going to change a call, so the situation is not going to be any better.

I know you are probably thinking, what do I know? I'm just a writer who knows nothing whatsoever about playing sports.

Well, I learned at an early age in my athletic career that no matter what happens in the game, if you keep your head and be patient, things will go your way.

It seems many athletes think their ability will get them through everything and they will never be wrong about anything.

A good example of this is the Niagara men's basketball team in their first exhibition game against Sheridan College of Oakville they simply lost their heads.

They had players yelling at the referees and doing everything but playing basketball.

It was a disgrace to watch and to say they were representing our school.

If they act this way at home, I don't want to know what they act like on the road.

They are young adults, but it's no excuse for the way they acted. You don't see Michael Jordan losing his head any time he gets called for a foul.

Keeping your head in a game is as important as physical ability. Sometimes frustration sets in, but we should overcome it with mental toughness.

She shoots ...

Manie Roy goes up for a shot against D'Youville College and scores.

Photo by Penni Toneguzzo

Enjoying sports a lifelong passion

BY PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

Everybody has an interest in sports, whether they participate in a sport or just enjoy watching.

Think of all the bets made or how sports bars fill up with so many different people to see who wins the Super Bowl.

Although I played basketball in the past — my current interest is watching the Toronto Maple Leafs play hockey.

Not only do I like them for their energy, style, and performance, but also because they are Canadian.

It's very important to have an extra-curricular activity, even just to try something new.

I had the pleasure this summer of going to Forester's Falls to go white water rafting. I had the time of my life and would recommend it to everyone. It's something exciting, but you're at risk.

Now, of course, for any sport your body is at risk of being injured, but I believe that's part of what makes it so exciting.

Why has hockey become so popular?

Some fans enjoy watching grown men take off their gear on the ice and simply go at it. It may sound stupid, but obviously it makes more people across the world tune into hockey night in Canada.

Get out there and enjoy a sport, whether you coach, participate, or are just a roaring fan. Your spirits will rise and so will your self-esteem, and believe it or not, someone out there may look up to you.

Upcoming Events

BY PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

Here are the upcoming games for the Niagara College Knights at home:

Men's basketball on Friday, Nov. 29 — Lambton at Niagara at 8 p.m.

Women's basketball on Friday, Nov. 22 — George Brown College at Niagara at 6 p.m., Friday, Nov. 29 - Niagara C.C. College at Niagara at 6 p.m.

Men's volleyball on Saturday, Nov. 23 — Genesee at Niagara at 1 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 30 — Redeemer College at Niagara at 2 p.m.

Women's volleyball on Friday, Nov. 22 — St. Clair at Niagara at 8 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 30 — Redeemer College at Niagara at noon.

Come and support our varsity teams!

NIAGARA COLLEGE CANADA

PUB NIGHTS

Niagara College employee on NIGHTSHIFT

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

A longtime Niagara College employee is more than happy working a few nights a week.

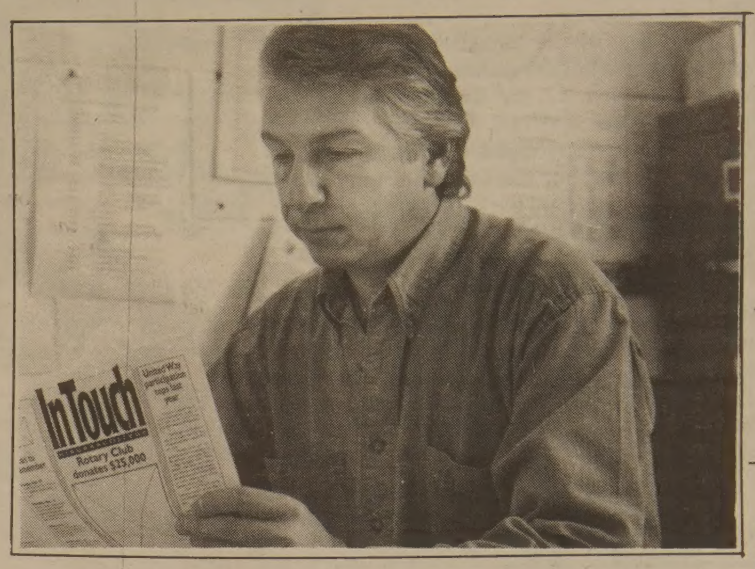
Jerry Salfi, 46, of Niagara Falls, employed with the college's Communication and Planning Department, plays bass/vocals for The NIGHTSHIFT Blues Band.

The other band members are George Tirpko, guitar/vocals, and Gary Storin, drums, both from St. Catharines.

The band has been together for more than two years, but Salfi has been playing music for 31 years.

The band has a rich full sound from R&B and Chicago rhythm to a full tilt Texas guitar and soulful blues.

The band has produced its own self-titled album which consists of seven cover tunes on the first side and four originals on the second side. They are planning to release a new CD in the spring time.



Jerry Salfi, is the Bassist for The NIGHTSHIFT Blues Band and is a Communications Officer with the Communication and Planning department for the college.

Photo by Robert Hallett

"We do all our own production work for now. Sometimes it is a good idea to keep control of things," Salfi says.

Some of the band's influences are Stevie Ray Vaughan, B.B. King, Led Belly, John Lee Hooker, Eric Clapton, early Cream, and early Alman Brothers.

'All the work we do is at night' -Jerry Salfi

Salfi says the band name comes from the Commodores' song *Nightshift*. "All the work we do is at night. It talks about other artists that have passed on. This is a kind of tribute to them too."

The band rehearsals are at Tirpko's home.

"Rehearsals are tough to plan," says Salfi. "We rehearse when we have a specific task involved, new material, or if we are working on original material."

The band will play at McCabe's at Prudhommes Landing on Nov. 23, and at ROUNDBOYS in Thorold on Dec. 13. The band has played in clubs such as Southside Frankies in St. Catharines, Joe's Place in Port Colborne, the Gaslight in Hamilton, ROUNDBOYS in Thorold, McCabe's at Prudhommes Landing, and Castle Rock in Niagara Falls.

The band will play at "any place that will hire us, we will play," says Salfi.

The band members get along well with each other.

"We are all pretty level-headed guys. We leave our egos at the door when we are working. We have got a similar musical goal with this band. There is a mutual respect among us," says Salfi.

Top comedy by top comedians at After Hours

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

The new and the experienced rocked After Hours.

James Cunningham, 23, of Toronto, was the opening comic for a crowd of about 200 people on Nov. 6.

Cunningham has been performing for only eight months. "I'm currently working my way up."

It was Cunningham's first time at Niagara College in Welland. He has performed at Yuk Yuk's in Niagara Falls.

"I heard Niagara College is a rocking gig, so I'm glad I got the opportunity to come here."

Cunningham is a graduate of the University of Toronto theatre arts program."Greg (Greg Morton, the second comedian of the night) was always one of the guys I went to watch and he totally wows me," he said. "I love his work and I realized this is what I had to do.

"It still isn't my full-time job but it's a passion, for sure. I love it."

Cunningham has some advice for young comics. "Don't do it because you think you're going to get rich and famous. Do it because you enjoy it."

Cunningham said there is "a big difference" between performing at a school and a comedy club.

"At a school they're there to have a good time and laugh, but at a club they're there to drink so you have to work a lot harder."

Cunningham's final advice was this: "It's a bad comic that says the crowd sucked. You have to work with them."

Greg Morton, of London, was the headliner of the night.

"This is my second time here, and last year was a great show," said Morton, adding "It was wild, and the audience was great."

The 38-year-old graduated from the animation program at Sheridan College in Oakville. He has been in the business for 10 years.

"At one point in time I didn't want to be a comic, I wanted to be a cartoonist, and I ended up in comedy."

"I made several stabs at animation. I went to the animation company in Toronto and did animation for Hannah-Barbera. I then tried to do my own syndicated strip, but I realized I would probably go crazy sitting behind a desk.

"I still like to draw, and I put out a promotional calendar once a year with cartoon characters."

Morton said there are differences between a comedy club and a school. "At a club you have an older crowd, which allows you to talk about all things because they've lived life and been there, but school kids are different.

"It's your job as a comic to get comedy across to the audience. If you're not yourself then you screwed up," said Morton.

"I love my job. It's great."

College 'hip' to comedy

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

About 150 people gathered at After Hours to watch the Jewish comedy night on Nov. 13.

Michael Gelbart, 27, of Toronto, was the first performer of the night. He has been performing comedy for eight years.

"My interest in comedy is not limited to stand-up, but I always knew I wanted to be in entertainment."

It was Gelbart's first time performing at Niagara College in Welland, but he has performed at Yuk Yuk's in Niagara Falls many times.

"I find students to be a really good audience to perform to because they're in a place of higher learning. They're more hip and understand comedy more.

"Because of my age, my comedy fits well for the college generation."

Some of Gelbart's accomplishments include writing and starring in his own comedy show for CBC. He did his first movie for the family channel in August. It aired on U.S. television a month ago.

Gelbart is about to leave for Vancouver for his second movie on the family channel.

"On average I enjoy my job. I'm usually happy. Like every job though, there are days I don't want to do the show, but you must realize you have to do the show because your audience deserves it.

Gelbart said he hopes in the future he will be able to "continue the things I've done, but on a greater scale."

The second performer of the night was Simon Menahem, of Vancouver.

Menahem has been performing comedy for seven years. It was his first time at Niagara College.

The 25-year-old moved to Vancouver three years ago after he performed at the Just For Laughs festival in Montreal.

"Right now I look at my job as a stepping stone. Hopefully I'm on my way up to somewhere."

The night was continuous laughs, but unfortunately a young Niagara College female heckler caused the comedians to pause constantly through their skits.

It is hoped this problem will not happen again.

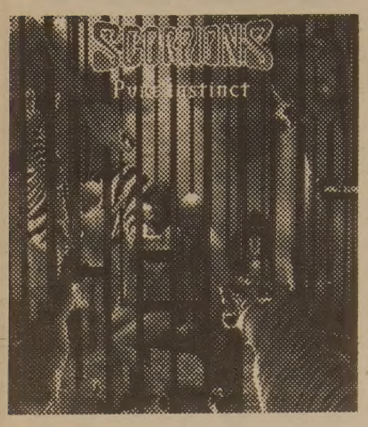
A taste of piercing pain

The Torture King shows no mercy as he pokes, cuts, and burns at After Hours on Nov.18.

Photo by Jennifer Elliott

MUSICAL INSIGHT

Scorpions sting again with Pure Instinct



By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

Their sting is stronger than ever with their latest CD **Pure Instinct**.

Originally from Germany, the Scorpions (along with Erwin Musper, the band's longtime engineer) produced the band's 13th North American release. The band started in 1968 and 28 years later they still enjoy international success.

The moment listeners hear lead singer Klaus Meine's distinctive voice, they'll instinctively identify this as a Scorpions' album. With new drummer Curt Cress, bassist Ralph Rieckermann, guitarists Rudolf Schenker and Matthias Jabs, the band sounds better than ever.

Herman Rarebell, the band's former drummer, decided to become a record mogul in Monte Carlo. He started a label with Prince Albert of Monaco, called Monaco Records.

Compared to the band's earlier albums, **Pure Instinct** is a more personal and softer sounding album. There are still some great rockers on this album like their first single *Wild Child*.

Two of the more high-vibed songs on the CD, *Stone in My Shoe* and *Time Will Call Your Name*, are excellent pick-me-uppers.

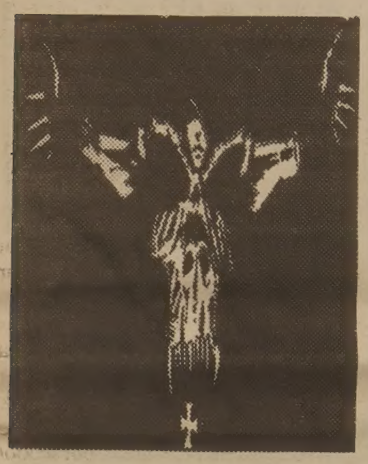
The band put more ballads on this album than on their previous albums. *You and I, Are You the One, Does Anyone Know, When You Came into My Life*, are the kind of slow songs that make you want to sway and slow dance all night.

Lyrically, the band has maintained its tried-but-true relationship/love gone awry social commentary. *Soul Behind the Face* is a song about accepting and loving people for who they are beyond their insides, their souls. This song will warm up anyone's heart.

With the doo-wop introduction to *Oh Girl (I Want to be with You)*, the prominent bass line of *Where the River Flows*, and the metalesque shadings of *But the Best for You*, the band has shown they are willing to experiment with their musical style.

On a scale of one to 10, this CD deserves an 11, all Scorpions' fans would agree.

A shaking new album and sound from Danzig



By MIKE HASTINGS
Staff Writer

'I gotta feel all sacrificied!'

The new album from Danzig, **Danzig 5 - blackacidevil,** may be a big shock to most Danzig fans.

Glenn Danzig, lead vocals and the main ingredient to the band, made numerous changes to his environment in the past two years.

The first change was the sound of his music. The previous four albums were in-your-face music; now Danzig adds a lot of distortion to the fire.

With similiar industrial sounds to Nine Inch Nails, Skinny Puppy, and Ministry, this album may take Danzig fans a couple of listens to get use to.

The second change Danzig made was leaving Rick Rubin and American Recordings for a new record label at Hollywood Records, which is affiliated with Disney.

Danzig and Joey Castillo, who took over as drummer from Chuck Biscuits during the 4p tour, did all the work of putting this album together.

This 10-song album is very loud, with deafening songs like *7th House, Power of Darkness, blackacidevil,* and *Sacrifice*, the album's first single.

Then you have eerie and industrial songs like *Serpentia, Hint of Her Blood, See All You Were*, and a cover of Black Sabbath's *Hand of Doom* that adds to Danzig's new transformation.

The other change Danzig made was for the upcoming tour. He added Josh Lazie on bass guitar and Tommy on guitars to replace Eerie Von and John Christ who left to pursue independent projects.

It will take time to get used to the new sound and approach of

Danzig 5-Blackacidevil

The two toned-down songs, *Ashes* and *Come to Silver* were actually written for crooner Johnny Cash, but Danzig kept them for himself.

Danzig's new album, but, all in all, this is an excellent CD and I recommend picking it up.

'I will keep you cold and darkened till the end of time.'

The beauty, strength and mystique of violin music

By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

If you want the chance to listen to a fresh sound, pick up a copy of Vanessa Mae's CD, entitled **The Violin Player.**

About a year ago, I wouldn't have considered listening to instrumental music, especially the violin. But I've changed and the music I prefer has changed.

The first selection, *Toccata and Fugue in D minor*, is swift, upbeat, and fast-paced violin playing that leaves you wanting more.

You could hardly categorize **The Violin Player** or Mae's playing as a traditionalist practising an old art form.

She is quoted as saying, "Playing good music on the violin has a very high 'feel good' factor. So what I like, I will want to play. I have no wish to compartmentalize music. To me, music with its beauty, strength and mystique is for enjoying and for playing. This is the way of the violin player."

She holds her violin playing as the most important aspect of her life.

While listening to this CD, the songs travel through the airwaves creating a relaxed setting.

You'll learn a lot about how the violin can be adapted for different styles of music.

Her violin playing, whether it's a little hard, like the song entitled *Jazz Will Eat Itself*, or something softer on her CD, like the song *Warm Air*, her music is there to soothe you and will allow your mind to wander off.

It's just the kind of music to listen to while reading a good book, or taking a hot bath.

A tribute to Hard Core Logo

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

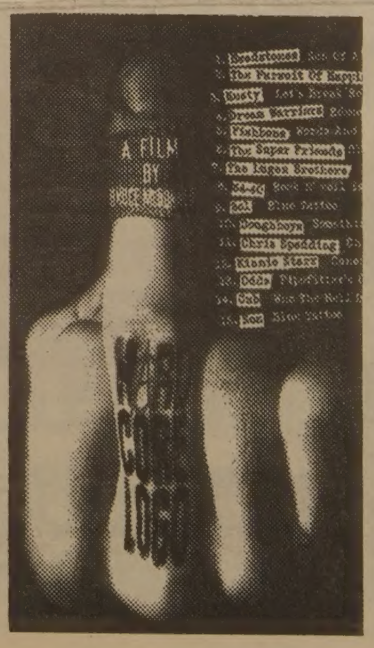
First of all, if you haven't seen the movie Hard Core Logo you won't appreciate this tribute CD titled none other than **A Tribute To Hard Core Logo.**

Secondly, you will have my praise if you've seen the movie and then bought a copy of the CD.

A Tribute to Hard Core Logo contains 15 songs by famous and not-so-famous groups with the majority being Canadian bands.

On this disc the groups are doing cover songs of an imaginary "drunk-rock" group from the West Coast punk scene called Hard Core Logo. Can we say Spinal Tap?

After listening to the tribute CD, I'm positive the only way one can find this disc enjoyable is to be so moronic (or wasted) that you can



trick your brain into thinking that the group Hard Core Logo actually exists.

After you've done that you'll also have to believe that they're extremely talented and that you're also waiting for a tribute CD to come out.

Perhaps the makers of the movie and soundtrack should include something inside each CD that could help one achieve such a mental state. Can we say hallucinogens?

If you're mentally stable you'll still find songs by the Headstones, Super Friendz, 54-40, the Odds, and Cub, thus proving there is at least some credible talent on the disc.

Do yourself a favor and skip this CD at the shop — or get a lobotomy and then buy it.

Saxy sounds of Kenny G

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

Gee, here is another CD from Kenny G - **The Moment**

Kenny G is cited as the No. 3 male artist and No. 5 artist of the 1990s by Entertainment Weekly.

He is following up the biggest-selling holiday album of all time, **Miracles,** and the biggest selling instrumental of all time, **Breathless**.

Kenny G is a soprano saxophone player. He delivers 12 new cuts of pure power and extraordinary passion on his new album.

There are 10 instrumentals on this album, including classical ballads as well as his groundbreaking exploration of Latin and R & B rhythms.

The CD also features two vocal collaborations — *That Somebody Was You*, featuring Toni Braxton, and *Everytime I Close My Eyes*, featuring Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds.

The CD also features *The Champions Theme* from the top-selling **Rhythm Of The Games** album, already heard by millions worldwide on the 1996 summer Olympics broadcasts.

The album is produced by Kenny G with tracks produced by Kenny G and Edmonds.

THE ARTS

Insects 'R Us at Brock

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

Presenting the methodical madness of the wriggling insect realm is a "sticky" task.

But despite the "creative task," as cited in the program of Brock University's production of The Insect Play, shown on Nov. 7, 8, and 9, this reflective portrait of the insect world is effective and stingily accurate.

Challenges such as creating an on-stage anthill, ant wars with only nine cast members, the relative size of a human plodding through the insect world, and costume and movement correlations such as in the depiction of a slithering larvae, were entertainingly overcome.

The play is an adaptation of an original untheatrical version by Czech brothers Karel and Josef Capek, and was directed by Brock's Glenys McQueen-Fuentes.

As they whirled about the stage, interacting and soliloquizing, the elastic cast of the second and third-year students of the Theatre and Dramatic Literature program, provided a thoroughly exuberant free-flow of entertainment. They illustrated the truths fundamental to both the worlds of humans and insect alike.

The mingled feeling of humor is never lost throughout the play

The three-act play itself buzzes with symbolism of the meaning of love, to disillusionments concerning "collective" societal progress, harmony and the cycle of life.

The play's focus is on a tramp, representing the floundering epitome of man, who stumbles through and reflectively troubles himself over the wanton and egotistical ramblings spewed out by the members of this eerie ant world — which, of course, bears striking resemblance to our own.

The tramp lingers in the shadows for the majority of the play as the audience is introduced to various members of the insect world, all of whom offer insight into the nature of man: vain butterflies; capitalistic dung-beetles; a rapacious and dependent parasite; blithe crickets; and warring, droning ants embracing the ideal of the "collective will," insisting theirs is a "battle of peace," and bellowing to their soldiers that they "must have war to have peace!"

The costumes were colorful, inventive and entertaining themselves. In a student play, where costume and prop expenditure were probably kept to a minimum, lighting and sound play an especially important role in helping the audience become a part of this surreal world. The simple shining of a red light at times of danger, war, and death was an effective measure in relaying a feeling of anxiety, and the score provided an excellent essence of insect-like writhing and humming activity.

The mingled feeling of humor, repugnance and lecherous existence is never lost throughout the play.

Sensual, emphatic, and darkly humorous, this is a play that mocks the circle of life and questions human motives. It's lively and even silly, but effective in providing a glimpse into the raw roots of human existence.

'Mists of Avalon' Praise

A story of Arthur's ladies

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

Although not a new book in the general sense (1982), *The Mists of Avalon* by Marion Zimmer Bradley, offers something fresh upon every reading.

A wonderful read but at 876 pages, by no means a quick read, *The Mists of Avalon* retells legends of King Arthur from the views of the women behind the throne.

Morgaine of the Fairies, a high priestess in Avalon, fights to make her half-brother, Arthur, recognize his roots and keep his promises to Avalon, where the goddess is the worshipped deity.

Gwynhefar, Arthur's pious wife, must contend with her own battles. She pushes Arthur away from the goddess and closer to a new Christian god. She agonizes over her desire for the king's first knight, Sir Lancelet, who incidentally, Morgaine also desires.

The women struggle with each other, as well as within themselves, over theology, philosophy and love. Through imagery appealing to the senses, emotions and intellect, the reader is taken back in time to when old religion was giving way to new, and Avalon was sadly becoming more and more hidden by the mists.

The Mists of Avalon only disappoints when the reader gets to the last page, and then only because it means the book is over. But that's when you start again.

Worth the 'Ransom'

By MIKE HASTINGS
Staff Writer

Ranson, the new thriller starring Mel Gibson and directed by Ron Howard, will keep you on the edge of your seat for the two-hour duration.

Gibson plays Tom Mullen, a rich airline tycoon and Rene Russo plays his wife. They are at the mercy of the kidnappers, played by Gary Sinise, Lili Taylor, and former New Kid on the Block Donnie Walhberg, who snag their nine-year-old son played by Brawley Nolte, the son of actor Nick Nolte.

Sinise, the head kidnapper, demands that Gibson pay a $2-million ransom for his son.

At first, with the advice of an FBI agent, played by Delroy Lindo, Gibson agrees to pay the ransom.

When the payoff goes wrong, Gibson decides to take things into his own hands. He goes on a television newscast and tells the kidnappers the ransom is a bounty for their heads.

During this movie, you will sit there and wonder whether or not Gibson will give in to the kidnappers.

Gibson seems to become just as insane as the kidnappers, taunting them to make the next move on his son's life.

This is a very impressive movie, with an impressive cast. From the moment of the kidnapping to the end of the movie, it is very fast paced and thrilling.

The final confrontation between Gibson and Sinise is predictable, but at the same time very mind-blowing.

Ransom is definitely worth the $7 ransom you must pay to see it.

Modernized Shakespeare

By DERRICK VANDER-LELY
Staff Writer

The classic play Romeo and Juliet is brought to life in a new movie set completely in modern times.

I felt the movie really brought out William Shakespeare's play and helps bring to life his words to a generation that would not otherwise care.

The movie is set in modern times but the whole dialogue remains the same as the original play.

they kept the original dialogue from the play

Leonardo DiCaprio plays Romeo and shows everyone once again that he can play a variety of characters. From a drugged-out poet in Basketball Diaries, to a mentally challenged boy in What's Eating Gilbert Grape, to a star-crossed lover.

Juliet is played by Claire Danes, who you might remember from the television show, My So Called Life. Her portrayal of Juliet made me feel as if she had been born during Elizabethean times.

For me, the best part of this movie would have to be the visual imagery. Everything from the scenery to the elaborate camera work helped to entertain and keep you in the story.

Seeing the characters driving around in fast cars and using guns and other modern day materials added to the creative element and helped enhance the story.

I'm glad that they kept the original dialogue from the play in this movie.

I found it interesting listening to what was being said and trying to relate it to what was going on during the movie.

Some people might find the dialogue annoying and would rather have things explained to them in modern english. Well, you could always stay home and rent Die Hard.

Leonardo DiCaprio is Romeo, and Claire Danes is Juliet in William Shakespeare's Romeo ands Juliet.

Scorpio, your passion for life is booming

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
and PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writers

Here are your horoscopes for the weekend of Nov. 22 to 24.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

Try not being jealous of others. Focus on your positive traits, your passion for life is booming. Lucky numbers: 9, 23

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Plan a winter trip now. When planning for your trip think freedom, and extracurricular activities. Lucky numbers: 3, 45

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Stop and think before you overpower another. You may be offending someone who admires you. Lucky numbers: 8, 37

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Your loyalty towards others has made you stand out this week. Keep up the good work and hold your head high. Lucky numbers: 4, 89

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Your spiritual being has been interrupted this week. Put quiet time aside for you and relax. Lucky numbers: 7, 52

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Stop being so self-focused and bring your attention towards others. You will be praised in the end. Lucky numbers: 6, 71

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Sometimes you may be seen as bull-headed by others, but there's nothing wrong with standing up for what you believe. Lucky numbers: 6, 62

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

Your self-esteem could use a boost. Deep down you know you can do anything, so don't forget it on a day-to-day basis. Lucky numbers: 5, 13

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

There's someone you have your eye on, but is it worth it to jeopardize your friendship? Think about what you want before making any decisions. Lucky numbers: 2, 39

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Despite the stress you've felt this past week, your star still shone brightly. This glow will last the weekend. Lucky numbers: 16, 42

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Don't put off the book you've been wanting to read any longer. Look for omens. Lessons are always right under your nose. Lucky numbers: 12, 38

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Take the weekend to sit back and watch reruns of childhood shows. You'll be better for it. Lucky numbers: 2, 33

The best of prime time

BY PENNI TONEGUZZO

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B	A	Y	W	A	T	C	H	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	K	M	U	T
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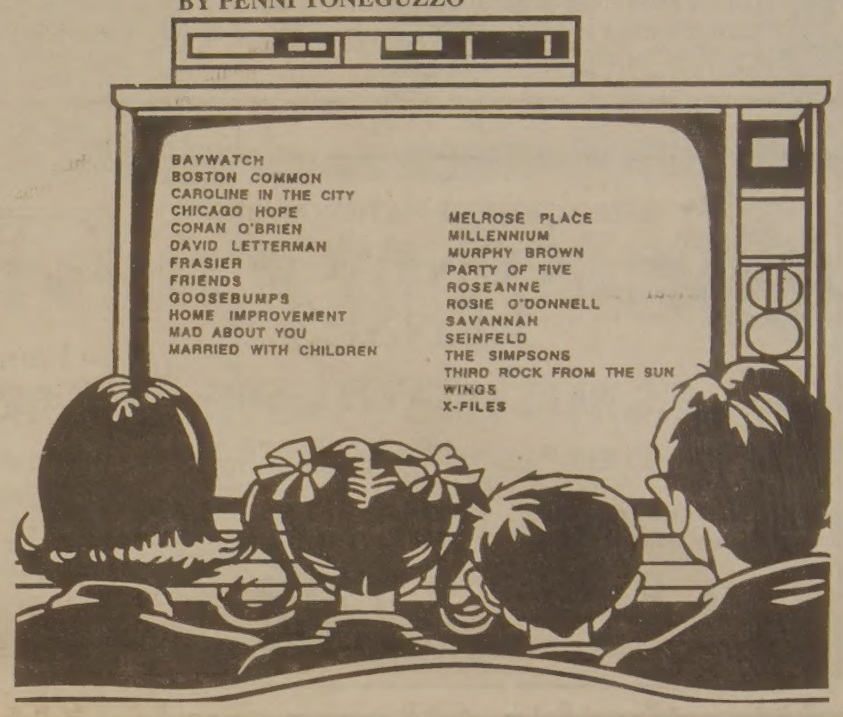

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Wilderness adventure can be yours

By JENNIFER GIBSON
Staff Writer

During study week in March, General Education program students will be heading north for a not-so-relaxing week of roughing it in the woods.

The "alternative" general education elective, the Winter Wilderness Adventure, offers a week-long trip to northern Ontario.

The trip includes a stop at the Temagami Wilderness Centre and a chance to enter the trapper's life at a trapper's camp east of Cochrane, Ont.

The students who dare to bear the wilderness will learn about wildlife management, animal rights, the fur trade, native affairs, forestry and environmental concerns.

A number of speakers, discussions and projects will be offered.

There will be two pre-sessions in preparation for the course in late January and mid-February. After the trip the group will get together for a follow-up session.

The last day to register for this course is Jan. 15. The trip is open to all full and part-time students.

Any Continuing Education students are to register through the normal Continuing Education process.

The cost is $500 to cover travel, accommodations and most meals.

Students interested in this trip should telephone Valerie Grabove at Ext. 7741. An information session will be held on Tuesday, Nov 26 at 12:30 p.m. in L2.

Congratulations to Hyojeong Kim & Chris Carey who were married Friday, Nov. 15

From Journalism Print Students & Staff

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

POOL TOURNAMENT
EVERY TUESDAY at 12:30, at the Niagara College student centre. $5.00 entry fee - double elimination CASH prizes, interested students sign up at the SAC office.

MUSIC CLUB...JOIN UP!
Meetings take placet in portable one (outside Hennepin Hall) every Wednesday from 3:30-6:30 p.m. For more info call Kevin Winsborrow **734-8449**

CHILD CARE

TRAVELLING TOTS HOME DAYCARE now has 3 openings. Full preschool program, nutritious lunch and snacks, receipts. Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m., to 4:30 p.m. Close to Niagara College. Experienced caregiver. Space is limited so call now! **788-0014**

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DEDICATION

There will be a new name on Niagara College's Wall of Fame next month. The name of Eugene Maltais, who died Oct. 24, after a brief illness, will be added to the Wall of Fame. He was a teacher at the college for 22 years. The Wall of Fame is in After Hours at the Welland campus. A ceremony will be held on Thursday, Dec. 5. Robina Maltais, his wife, is expected to attend the ceremony.

All advertisers are required to check their ads the first issue it appears. The Niagara News will offer a make good on any ad with an error for the first insertion only. The advertiser agrees that the publisher will not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that section where the error occurred, whether such error is due to negligence of its staff or otherwise and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for advertisements. The publisher also reserves the right to edit, revise, classify or reject an advertisement.

Advertising Deadline for the Christmas Edition is Nov. 30

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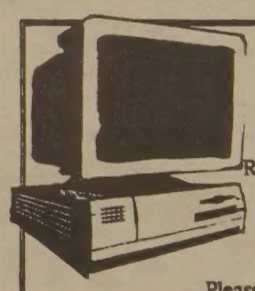

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Niagara College Open House in Welland Nov. 24 1-4 p.m.

Board of Directors approves SAC constitution

College student council votes on honorarium distribution

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

Quietly munching on sandwich sections, veggie sticks, cookies and other sweets, Student Administrative Council (SAC) members and the members of Niagara College's Board of Directors passed all of SAC's proposed constitutional amendments at an exclusive joint meeting in the Hennepin Hall board room.

The words "all in favor" echoed across the table after every hand-raised vote during the meeting, thus passing the proposed amendments without a hitch.

Niagara College President Dan Patterson complimented SAC on their continued commitment to students, and commented on the need for faculty, support staff, administration and students to come together and talk about any issues concerning them. "It's important for me to hear them and act upon them," he said.

"We're a $50 million operation, we have over 50 post-secondary programs, 5,000 post-secondary students, 16,000 registering each year for continued part-time edu-

'I can't see the membership appreciating an increase without reason,' — Don Woodruff

and 500 full-time students," said Patterson. "It's a big operation."

"As chief-executive officer it's really important that I continually keep in contact with the customers."

"Your (SAC) council meetings are a vehicle in which you have staff here to help you deal with your issues, and I get copies of your minutes and read them to make sure I'm aware of your issues."

Also made official during the meeting was the approved acclamation of former student representative Rhonda-Lynn DesRoches to the position of SAC vice-president external. Former vice-president external Kim Fragomeni resigned from the position earlier this month.

At an in camera session, the members of both groups voted on a proposal to distribute the honorarium normally belonging to the vice-president social (a position removed from the SAC constitution) among the remaining members of SAC.

Three separate motions were each struck down by the joint council regarding the distributing of the honorarium. One to distribute the honoraria among the executive members, one suggesting it be dispersed among the student representatives and one that it be distributed equally among the two.

A motion was then passed to have other community colleges polled about their honorarium so a comparison could be drawn.

SAC vice-president external Don Woodruff says he basically opposes the increase because he feels that those who advocated it didn't provide adequate reasons as to why SAC members should be granted the honorarium increase.

"If council members were to show adequate proof of why there should be an increase—there is a space in reasoning for an increase, but the Board of Directors have not been provided with enough information to adequately accept an increase," said Woodruff. "What's the reasoning? I can't see the membership appreciating an increase without a reason."

Students welcome

Graduate opens forum for writers and poets

By BRIAN HALLETT
Staff Writer

A Niagara College graduate has turned an ice cream parlor into a cafe.

SweeTreats Cafe on Niagara Street in Welland, beside Jumbo Video, is owned and operated by Lisa Benner of Welland.

Benner is a graduate from the college's General Arts and Science program.

SweeTreats opened at the end of October. The cafe is open from noon to 10 p.m.

An open forum for writers, poets and storytellers will be held on Nov. 22. The forum starts at 7 p.m. and is open to any artist published or not.

"It's something the public wanted," said Benner, adding she is trying to stay away from commercialized work.

Benner said she had several requests for a place like the

'It's something the public wanted.'

SweeTreats Cafe.

This would be the first open mic for writers, poets and storytellers at the SweeTreats Cafe.

She said she is having a good response with people coming in and asking about the open mic.

Writers do not need to make a booking — just show up and wait your turn. The public is invited.

The walls of SweeTreats were interestingly decorated. They were decorated with local artwork, including work by Benner.

She said she wants to provide a place where people can come and display their art and have a place to relax.

SweeTreats is looking for college-age customers and up, she said, explaining she had some problems with high school-age costumers.

"The nice thing" about a cafe is that "it's in between" a bar and coffee shop, she said.

Lisa Benner, owner\operator of SweeTreats, prepares coffee.

Photo by Colin Huneault

Islanders bring Caribbean warmth

By CHRISTINE TURMAINE
Staff Writer

Niagara College students experienced a Caribbean warmth on a recent chilly day.

Trevor Walcott and the Tropical Islanders performed at Niagara College in Welland on Nov. 13.

Feet were tapping and hands were clapping as the Islanders played familiar tunes in a Caribbean style. The songs included *La Bamba, Red, Red Wine* and *Three Little Birds* from the late Bob Marley.

The band played from noon to 2 p.m for a Caribbean lunch-hour special. The concert was sponsored by Versa Foods.

Students were offered a traditional Caribbean lunch for $3.50, which included jerk chicken, curried chicken, fried plantain (deep-fried bananas) and bulla. A number of students were on hand to experience the tropical cuisine.

Band available for anniversaries, and birthdays, other special occasions.

Also present was Uniglobe/Transborder Travel promoting its Spring Break trip to the Dominican Republic at a new resort called the Caribe Campo Club.

The Tropical Islanders Steel Band consists of three members: Walcott, Lynda Lawrie and Tony Corbin. They have performed at Taco Tequilas in St. Catharines and The Castaways in Sherkston.

The band members said they are available for birthdays, anniversaries and other special occasions.

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Niagara College Students who are parents are welcome to bring their children to our annual Children's Christmas Party.
Every child under 12 will receive a free gift from Santa.
sign up your child in the SAC office before Dec.2

HORTICULTURE

Program leaving historical site behind

By KATHERINE NADEAU
and GORD WITTENBERG
Staff Writers

Plans are being finalized to move the Horticulture program from its location on the old Buchanan homestead in St. Catharines to the new campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

On-site preparation for the new campus has begun in anticipation of a planned opening in September 1998.

With an enrolment of 163 students, the Horticulture program has come a long way since September 1968 when only 10 students began their studies in St. Catharines.

The school is in Ivan Buchanan Hall, part of the Buchanan family nursery in the 1880s, which specialized in fruit trees and grape stock propogation.

The Buchanans farmed the land until 1916 when it came under municipal ownership and was proposed as a future cemetary site. It was never developed as a cemetary and in 1927 was sold to the federal government for use as a research centre. The department of agriculture used the property to house the laboratory of plant pathology until 1967 when the laboratory moved to Vineland.

Ivan Buchanan, a former St. Catharines mayor and former chair of the Niagara College Board of Governors, proposed the site as "an ideal location" for a horticulture program.

There have been several renovations and additions, including a new library and greenhouses. The original building had two classrooms with a total capacity of only 50 students. Enrolment was not expected to exceed 45.

Don Papple, a professor at the centre in St. Catharines for 20 years, says there were few trees and the landscaping was sparse when he joined the facility.

The new campus will present "exciting challenges" to students entering the Horticulture program, he says, adding the grounds will provide a "fresh palette" for practical application.

A centralized location will give students easier access to information about loans, sports programs, and other student services, says Papple.

As for the future use of the buildings and property, Helen Harris, realty manager for the City of St. Catharines, says there are no plans for the property.

Poinsettia sales have begun at the Horticulture Centre at 360 Niagara St., St. Catharines. Poinsettias cost $4.50, and a mums and poinsettia combination is $8. Poinsettias only will be available at the Welland campus bookstore. Sales will continue until sold out.

First-year student Kimberly Fairchild, 19, of Vineland, concentrates on de-budding mums at the centre.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau

Horticulture students field-potting nursery stock for spring sales.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau

Matt Moyer, a graduate of the Horticulture program, instructs second-year student Nick Van Veen, 20, of Whitby, on stump removal procedures at a private home in St. Catharines.

Photo by Katherine Nadeau